IROQUOIS INDIANS:

A Documentary History of the Diplomacy of the Six Nations and Their League

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INTRODUCTION

This compilation is like none other in the world. It is an archive of documents made by and concerning a people without scribes, documents recorded by other parties and originally filed away obscurely in repositories devoted to other interests. Because the League of the Iroquois and its constituent Six Nations negotiated diplomatically with the agents of empires, provinces, and nation-states, as well as with other Indian nations, Iroquois treaty documents came to rest in The Netherlands, France, Great Britain, Canada, and the United States, and in many state and private collections, in all of which the Iroquois documents were secondary to the thousand and one concerns of Europeans and Euro-Americans. Now these many scattered collections have been culled to create the first authentic archive of an indigenous tribal people.

Strictly speaking, an archive consists of the documents generated by an agency or institution, but we may think in terms of an imaginary Iroquois foreign office whose papers were destroyed in an imaginary fire, being preserved only in the copies made for other parties to negotiations. With that fiction in mind, what we have here is a reconstituted archive. Regardless of problems of definition, it is a body of texts exceedingly important to genuinely reconstituting the history of the United States and its predecessor colonies and native peoples.

The Iroquois League was a great military and political power in North America during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Its importance was recognized by contemporary statesmen of competing European empires and colonies, who vied with each other to secure Iroquois friendship and alliance. After 1700, the Iroquois policy of neutrality maintained a balance of power between the empires that lasted until the Seven Years War, and the Iroquois nations were wooed by Britain and the United States during the War of the American Revolution. It is not possible to write a valid political history of eastern North America during the era preceding the Revolution without carefully considering Iroquois participation in the most important events of the time; and the basis of the Northwest Ordinances of 1784-87 was the treaty made at Fort Stanwix between the United States and the Iroquois in 1784.

Though the Iroquois League fragmented during the American Revolution and its people are now scattered on Canadian and American reservations, and individually as far as Hawaii, their history after the Revolution became inextricably part of the history of the Great Lakes region and of the vast intersocietal trade that moved westward across the continent. Defying dogmas of the vanishing Indian, more Iroquois are now alive than were previously recorded at any one time.

The major problem in studying Iroquois participation in North American history has been the scattered and unreliable condition of the source materials. A large number were virtually inaccessible. Most have never been validated by critical examination for omissions, variance between copies, or other contradiction by other contemporary documents. In national and state archives, Iroquois treaties are submerged in the general material, their arrangement and cataloging ill-suited to the study of indigenous peoples; and indexes are at best inadequate, often erroneous and misleading. There is continuing attrition of source manuscripts, identifiable by later references to documents that no longer can be found.

Now, however, most of the problems of access have been solved by the archive presented herein; and comparison of documents has been facilitated. The documents included were compiled by a project begun in September 1978 at the D'Arcy McNickle Center for the History of the American Indian at the Newberry Library. Funded for three years by the Research Division of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and staffed by a historian and three anthropologists with the assistance of many temporary aides, the project initially aimed at compiling less than 3,000 texts, but even the specialists had badly underestimated Iroquois diplomatic activity and its involvements. The documents piled up to three times the original estimate, and the project's actual duration extended past its formal closing for three more years. It has been completed nevertheless, largely owing to the dedicated support of the Newberry Library and donation of labor by the staff. Many generous contributions by individuals and institutions are acknowledged below.

Project staff made no effort to collect original source documents. Instead, it copied them by microphotography or xerography and made paper copies of all documents to be filed in an archive at the Newberry. This publication reproduces that archive. It is open to addition as new documents come to light, and students are solicited to send information about such new documents to the Newberry. The archive's calendar is available on a computer printout at the Newberry, and a card index of names and subjects refers to about one-sixth of the documents on file. Access may be had by qualified students. An indexed document is noted as such by a degree sign after the date of the document on the headnote to the document and in the calendar. Regrettably the index could not be completed because of lack of funds, but it is useful in combination with the calendar. Both are printed in the guide that accompanies this film. A reader may wish to scan the calendar for context before concentrating on particular documents. Calendar and index, especially when used together, are finding aids for the location of particular documents and sets of related documents.

ABOUT THE TEXTS

What They Are

The documents presented here include the minutes of treaty conferences, the agreements resulting from formal meetings, and a broad range of background materials useful for interpreting motives, procedures, and effects. The editors' basic standard for selection was relevance to the diplomatic history of Iroquois nations or their league. Other parties involved in the negotiations are also included.

Most of the documents are manuscript or printed texts arranged in chronological order. Often it has been possible to compile copies of the same text from different sources, and sometimes these are variant, sometimes significantly so. All copies are included. Texts in languages other than English are presented but only rarely translated.

Photographs of wampum belts are also included as representing Indian records of negotiations. In almost all instances, it has not been possible to identify a particular belt with a specific written record, and the editors have concluded regretfully that the belts cannot be deciphered by a general code. Nevertheless certain conventional patterns have been observed, so the belts are grouped according to emblematic content, following the last written text at the end of the microfilm publication.

The documents span a period from the earliest surviving sixteenth century texts through the year 1842.

How They Were Copied

The editors depended on many archives and repositories for exact xerographic copies of original documents in their possession. Their valuable cooperation was unstinted, but the variety of their facilities for copying prevented the adoption of a uniform reduction ratio. Therefore, although the final microfilming at Research

Publications was done at a constant reduction ratio, there is no constant relation between the relative size of documents on our film and the actual dimensions of the originals.

The integrity of the documents was the editors' foremost concern. No document has been altered. Very few extractions were made and they are noted in every case. No marks were made by us on copies received except, in some cases, for bold editorial lines with arrows, to denote the beginning and end of a document. Such indications were also used to note overlapping when a large page had to be copied in sections.

The editors aimed at comprehensiveness. This objective required inclusion of some texts so mutilated or faint in the original as to be minimally legible. These are given nevertheless for whatever information can be extracted from them. Some are more legible in the technically enhanced copies than in the originals.

As in all publications, the originals remain the ultimate source to be consulted when issues of textual validity arise. The location of every document is given in a headnote.

How They Are Presented

Each entry consists of a headnote with the document's date, a brief description, and the source, followed by the document itself. In a few cases a translation or annotation will follow the document.

Each headnote description reflects the perspective of the document rather than editorial comment about it. As descriptions were often taken from catalogs or notations of source repositories, spelling of names is not standardized. Editorial remarks, if present, appear in parentheses or annotations.

Bracketed dates have been assigned by the editors. Single documents are given with the date when written regardless of the time referred to in their contents. This has been done because documents are products of the time and circumstances when written, and these may seriously affect interpretation of the contents. To preserve textual integrity, some texts have been included as found in collections of documents spanning a period of time which is so dated: e.g., 1645-Sept 1654. Multiple copies of the same document, same date, are distinguished as Document I, Document II, etc., and filed in sequence under their common date.

If a document is dated more than one year from the date of the treaty to which it pertains, it is cross-referenced under the treaty date. Because of the prolonged nature of many treaty negotiations, users should scan the compilation's calendar to find appropriate documents within a year of any event of interest. Although cross-references refer to specific documents, distinguished by Roman numerals in cases in which there is more than one document of the same date, references to other documents in editorial remarks within descriptions of a particular document do not make use of Roman numerals to distinguish between documents of the same date. In these cases, all documents of the date cited should be checked for the reference.

The editors have not tried to reconcile or adjust dates in the Old Style Julian calendar used by the English for many years after the French and Dutch had changed over to the New Style Gregorian calendar. Dates are given herein as they appear on the documents. When the English finally changed over, they often gave both new and old dates on the same text; in such instances the editors opted for the New Style annotation.

The project staff has compiled and edited a printed reference manual to assist in interpreting the texts, and we urge that it be kept handy during research. It is The History and Culture of Iroquois Diplomacy: An Interdisciplinary Guide to the Treaties of the Six Nations and Their League (Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 1984). It is a volume for quick and easy reference, self-contained but especially useful in conjunction with this compilation of documents.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This archive could not have been compiled without the generous contributions of counsel and materials from many persons and agencies. No one is intentionally left out of the following list. Pardon is asked for any inadvertent omission.

Indian people: Early in the project, Richard Powless and Paul Williams of the Union of Ontario Indians provided a list of treaty documents. Seven persons from the Union of Ontario Indians visited the project from 23rd to 29th June 1979 and offered comments and suggestions. Phil Monture, Land Researcher at Six Nations Reserve shared knowledge of locations of source materials. George Abrams, Director of the Seneca Iroquois National Museum on the Allegany Seneca Reservation, and Ramona Charles, Librarian at the Community House on the Tonawanda Seneca Reservation, provided information about the location of materials. Tribal historians from different political persuasions on fellowship at the Center discussed the project with staff members during their residence: Norbert Hill and Sandra Orie came from the Oneida Reservation in Wisconsin, and Douglas George, recommended by the "traditional" Mohawk Nation, came from the St. Regis (Akwesasne) Reservation. Everett White, born and raised at St. Regis (Akwesasne), provided valuable information about documents based on his former experiences as an Indian Health Service employee and his personal interest in the history of his people. Most important information and advice were given on a visit by Cayuga Chief Jacob E. Thomas who represents the Cayuga nation in the Grand Council of the Houdenosaunee and teaches in Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario. On 22nd May 1980, Chief Thomas made a joint presentation with Dr. Michael K. Foster, Iroquoian Ethnologist of the Canadian National Museum of Man. At a colloquium at the Newberry, they showed slides and facsimile artifacts and explained symbols in terms of Iroquois custom. Through the following day, Chief Thomas held nonstop conversation with project staff who took extensive notes and taped his analyses of certain wampum belts. He continued in correspondence afterward. Informal visitors to the project included Charles Patton and Tyler Hemlock, Caughnawaga (Kahnawake) Mohawks; and Alice Armstrong and Helen Laughing, Mohawks employed in the Demographic Office, Mohawk Tribal Offices, St. Regis Reservation.

When Associate Director Mary A. Druke traveled to Indian communities, she was received hospitably everywhere. Indians of Onondaga, including Oren Lyons, Irving Powless, Jr., and Irving Powless, Sr., though unsympathetic to the project, received her graciously and explained their attitudes. Information about documentary material and oral traditions were provided to her by residents of the following Indian communities: Allegany; Cattaraugus; Caughnawaga (Kahnawake), Onondaga, St. Regis (Akwesasne), Six Nations Reserve; Tonawanda; and Tuscarora.

Project Aides:

Consultants. Charles Gehring, of the New York State Library, Manuscripts, provided notes on Dutch manuscripts in the Livingston Family Papers at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library. Paul Stevens, a Fellow at the McNickle Center, compiled and annotated source documents of the era of the American Revolution. Another McNickle Center Fellow, Professor Richard Haan, contributed copies of odd documents he had been collecting for ten years. Mary Ann Mayes searched William N. Fenton's files and compiled a list of cited Iroquois documents. Lieutenant Commander C. McD. Stuart, RN, searched uncalendared treaty texts at the Public Record Office of Great Britain and arranged for transmission of copies. Paul Grey, graduate student at the University of London, acted as liaison between the project staff and the Public Record Office in acquiring documents ordered by the staff. Professional indexer Elin Christianson advised on indexing procedures. Major F.E.G. Bageshawe, of Matlock, England, provided photographs of a wampum belt in private hands.

Office employees at various times included Nancy Kovitz; Peter Radke; Polly Strong, University of Chicago graduate student; Andrew Tobin, Bennington College student; Karli Erica White. Wesley Andrews arranged much of the final organization of the archive files. The project was also helped by several students enrolled in undergraduate independent study seminars of the Association of the Colleges of the Midwest and the Great Lakes Colleges Association, whose wages were paid by the associations and the Newberry. David L. Ghere accomplished "last minute" tasks.

Volunteers included Claudette Alm; Jeanette Campanella; Lucy Caples; Herbert Furse; Ted Knutson; Nancy Kovitz; Dorothy Markowitz; Virginia Meyers; Noel O'Reilly; Mary Louise Ramsey; Mrs. Gerald Sivage. They sorted and identified the masses of documents arriving in the mails, and put them in order for editors' review.

Newberry Library staff. Special interest was maintained and special help provided by John Aubrey, Michael Kaplan, Steve Mandel, Terry Sullivan, and Michelene Fixico; and much gratitude is owed for the patience of Richard H. Brown.

Advice and information were exchanged with colleagues of the Atlas of Great Lakes Indian History project: Helen Hornbeck Tanner, Adele Hast, and Jacqueline Peterson. The members of the Conference on Iroquois Research and the American Society for Ethnohistory devoted three successive panel sessions to the project at annual meetings.

Institutions:

Special gratitude is owed to the Public Archives of Canada for its gift of copies of treaties and surrenders in its possession. Thanks must also be expressed to the Rochester [N.Y.] Museum and Science Center for its donation of photographs of its large collection of wampum belts. The University of Chicago made copyflo paper copies of microfilm at a minimal cost far below commercial prices. Research Publications sent a photographer without charge to film documents located at the Albany Institute of History and Art and at the New York State Archives in Albany. Work on the project was greatly facilitated by materials collected in research travel previous to the project and incorporated into project files. The American Philosophical Society made such research fellowship grants to Director Jennings and Associate Director Druke. Through such generous contributions, as well as time and energy given by individuals, the project managed to stay within its budget despite its massive increase in size. When the project could not be finished within its allotted three years, the Newberry Library financed it to completion.

Thanks are due to each repository, publication, or individual source of materials listed below which made available copies of materials in its collections. together they have made this publication possible.

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promising upon our royal word, that we will sincerely and faithfully perform and observe, all and singular the things which are contained in the aforesaid treaty, and that we will never suffer it to be violated by any one, or transgressed in any manner, as far as lies in our power. For the greater testimony and validity of all which, we have caused our great seal of Great Britain to be affixed to these presents, which we have signed with our royal hand. Given at our court at St. James's, the ninth day of April, one thousand seven hundred and Eighty four, in the twenty fourth year of our Reign.

(Signed) GEORGE R."

Ordered, That the foregoing ratification be published in the Maryland Gazette.[1]

Ordered, That the Secretary cause the Journals of the Committee of the States, to be printed forthwith.[2]

The report of the committee, consisting of Mr. [Edward] Hand, Mr. [Jacob] Read, and Mr. [Richard Dobbs] Spaight, to whom was referred part of a report of a committee, on a letter dated 23d May, 1784, from Joseph Carleton, secretary in the war office, recommending the disposal of sundry stores by public auction, was agreed to, and referred to said Secretary to take order.

Mr. [Jacob] Read having informed the Committee of the States of the request of Mr. H. Remsen, jr. Under Secretary in the Office for Foreign Affairs, that he have leave of absence for three weeks or a month, for the purpose of going to New York to settle some private affairs.

Ordered, That leave be granted.

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[1] The motion, in the writing of Jacob Read, for the entry of the ratification in the journal and publication in the Maryland Gazette, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 32, folio 65.

[2] This motion, in the writing of Hugh Williamson, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 32, folio 63.

[Motion of Mr Jacob Read seconded by Mr Richard Dobbs Spaight.]

That a Committee be appointed to prepare a proclamation for a day of solemn prayer and thanksgiving to Almighty God, to be observed throughout the United States of America, on the exchange of the Instruments of Ratification of the Definitive Treaty between the United States of America and his Britannic Majesty and the happy completion of the great work of Independency and peace to these United States.[1]

TUESDAY, AUGUST 3, 1784.

The Committee of the States assembled: Present, nine states as yesterday.

The committee, consisting of Mr. [Jacob] Read, Mr. [Jonathan] Blanchard, and Mr. [Jeremiah Townley] Chase, to whom was referred a letter from Mr. P. Muhlenberg, to his Excellency the President of Congress, dated Philadelphia, July 5, 1784, reported the draft of a letter to be signed by the chairman of the Committee of the States, and transmitted to the executive of the State of Virginia, together with a copy of said letter; which was agreed to.

Sir,

The inclosed copy of a letter which I transmit you by order of the United States in the Committee of the States assembled will shew pretty clearly the state of Indian affairs in the western frontier of the United States, and point the exertions of your Excellency and the Legislature to such measures as may be proper and necessary on the part of Virginia to avert the danger to the Community apprehended by General Muhlenberg *the writer*.

Congress previous to their adjournment appointed Commissioners, gave the necessary instructions and made other arrangements requisite on their part for forming a General Treaty of peace with the Indians as far Southward as the Cherokees.

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[1] This motion, in the writing of Jacob Read, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 32, folio 151[1]. The indorsement states that it was referred on this day to Mr. [Jacob] Read, Mr. [Francis] Dana and Mr. [Edward] Hand.

But if ~~settlers~~ persons under grants from Virginia are permitted to enter upon and settle the Lands westward of the Ohio ~~and establish themselves~~ before the Treaty is compleate and a line of property ascertained between the Indian *villages and hunting grounds*, and the United States it seems impossible to avoid an immediate war with those people.

The paragraph of General Muhlenberg's letter respecting "the Gentlemen who received the Illinois Grant of 150,000 acres &c:" appears to point to the Land reserved by the State of Virginia out of the Territory ceded to the United States as a gratuity for Gen! George Rogers Clarke his officers and men.

It never was the idea of Congress that such Grant should be located or possession of the land taken till the general arrangements necessary for concluding a peace and ~~establishing~~ fixing a Boundary between the United States and the Indian Nations should have been carried into effect and the public tranquility ~~insured~~ established.

Should an Indian War be brought on in consequence of the steps taken by the Grantees of the Land just mentioned The cession of Virginia now relied on as a principal ~~hope~~ fund for redeeming the public securities of the United States, would prove an expence and disadvantage to the Union rather than a source from which any pecuniary assistance could be drawn.

The Committee of the States therefore rely that ~~such~~ effectual steps will be immediately taken by the State of Virginia ~~as will~~ to prevent any settlements being made ~~beyond the Ohio~~ on lands, not clearly within the former line of property between the State of Virginia and the Indians. And to suppress any such as may have been made untill the measures now carrying into effect for obtaining a general treaty can have their full operation. Also that every possible means be used to prevent a rupture with the Indians bordering on the State of Virginia.

With perfect esteem and regard, I am Sir,
Your Excellency's most obed! and most h^bl^e serv!,
SAM! HARDY.

His Excellency B. H.
The Gov! of ~~the state of~~ Virginia.[1]

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[1] This report, in the writing of Jacob Read, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 32, folio 141. Muhlenberg's letter is in No. 56, folio 113.

The committee, consisting of Mr. [Jacob] Read, Mr. [Francis] Dana, and Mr. [Edward] Hand, to whom was referred the motion of Mr. [Jacob] Read (seconded by Mr. [Richard Dobbs] Spaight)[1] of the 2d instant "That a committee be appointed to prepare a proclamation for a day of solemn prayer and thanksgiving to Almighty God, to be observed throughout the United States of America, on the exchange of the instruments of ratification of the Definitive Treaty of Peace, between the United States of America and his Britannic Majesty; and the happy completion of the great work of Independency and peace to these United States," reported the following form of a proclamation:

By the United States of America, in the Committee of the States assembled,

A Proclamation.

Whereas it hath pleased the Supreme Ruler of the universe, of his infinite goodness and mercy, so to calm the minds and do away the resentments of the powers lately engaged in a most bloody and destructive war, and to dispose their hearts towards amity and friendship, that a general pacification hath taken place, and particularly a Definitive Treaty of peace between the said United States of America and his Britannic Majesty, was signed at Paris, on the 3d day of September, in the year of our Lord 1783; the instruments of the final ratifications of which were exchanged at Passy, on the 12th day of May, in the year of our Lord 1784, whereby a finishing hand was put to the great work of peace, and the freedom, sovereignty and independence of these states, fully and compleately established: And whereas in pursuit of the great work of freedom and independence, and the progress of the contest in which the United States of America have been engaged, and on the success of which the dearest and most essential rights of human nature depended, the benign interposition of Divine Providence hath, on many occasions, been most miraculously and abundantly manifested; and the citizens of the United States have the greatest reason to return their most hearty and sincere praises and thanksgiving to the God of their deliverance; whose name be praised: Deeply impressed therefore with the sense of the mercies manifested to these United States, and of the blessings which it hath pleased God, to shower down on us, of our future dependance, at all times, on his power and mercy as the only source from which so great benefits can be derived; we, the United States of America, in the Committee of the States assembled, do earnestly recommend to the supreme executives of the several states, to set apart *Tuesday*, the *19th day of October* next, as a day of public prayer and thanksgiving, that all the people of the United States may then assemble in their respective churches and congregations, to celebrate with grateful hearts, and joyful and united voices, the mercies and praises of their all-bountiful Creator, most holy, and most righteous! for his innumerable favours and mercies vouchsafed unto them; more especially that he hath been graciously pleased so to conduct us through the perils and dangers of the war, as finally to establish the United States in freedom and independency, and to give them a name and place among the princes and nations of the earth; that he hath raised up great captains and men of war from amongst us, to lead our armies, and in our greatest difficulties and distresses hath given us unanimity to adhere to and assert our just rights and privileges; and that he hath been most graciously pleased also, to raise up a most powerful prince and magnanimous people, as allies, to assist us in effectually supporting and maintaining them; that he hath been pleased to prosper the labour of our husbandmen; that there is no famine or want seen throughout our land: And above all, that he hath been pleased to continue to us the light of gospel truths, and secured to us, in the fullest manner, the rights of conscience in faith and worship.

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[1] The words in parenthesis are in the report but not in the journal.

And while our hearts overflow with gratitude, and our lips pronounce the praises of our great and merciful Creator, that we may also offer up our joint and fervent supplications, that it may please him of his infinite goodness and mercy, to pardon all our sins and offences; to inspire with wisdom and a true sense of public good, all our public councils; to strengthen and cement the bonds of love and affection between all our citizens; to impress them with an earnest regard for the public good and national faith and honour, and to teach them to improve the days of peace by every good work; to pray that he will, in a more especial manner, shower down his blessings on Louis the Most Christian King our ally, to prosper his house, that his son's sons may long sit on the throne of their ancestors, a blessing to the people entrusted to his charge; to bless all mankind, and inspire the princes and nations of the earth with the love of peace, that the sound of war may be heard of no more; that he may be pleased to smile upon us, and bless our husbandry, fishery, our commerce, and especially our schools and seminaries of learning; and to raise up from among our youth, men eminent for virtue, learning and piety, to his service in church and state; to cause virtue and true religion to flourish, to give to all nations amity, peace and concord, and to fill the world with his glory.

Done by the United States, in the Committee of the States assembled, witness the hon^{bl} Samuel Hardy, chairman, this —— day of ——, in the year of our Lord, &c. and in the

9th of the sovereignty and independence of the United States of America.[1]

A motion was made by Mr. [Francis] Dana, seconded by Mr. [Jonathan] Blanchard, to postpone the consideration of the proclamation before the house: And on the question for postponing, the yeas and nays being required by Mr. [Jacob] Read,

New Hampshire,		*Virginia,*	
Mr. Blanchard,	ay	Mr. Hardy,	no
Massachusetts,		*North Carolina,*	
Mr. Dana,	ay	Mr. Spaight,	no
New Jersey,		*South Carolina,*	
Mr. Dick,	ay	Mr. Read,	no
Pennsylvania,		*Georgia,*	
Mr. Hand,	no	Mr. Houstoun,	ay
Maryland,			
Mr. Chase,	ay		

So the question was lost.

It was then agreed that the consideration of the proclamation be postponed, to make way for a motion made by Mr. [Francis] Dana, seconded by Mr. [Jonathan] Blanchard, as follows:

Whereas Congress do stand adjourned to the 30th day of October next, then to meet at Trenton, in the State of New Jersey, and as it is proper that the public records and papers, now remaining in their office in this city, should be removed from hence to Trenton, and that offices should be prepared for their reception, and the whole be properly arranged before the meeting of Congress, which will require considerable time to effect; and as it is also expedient for the Committee of the States to be prepared to meet Congress in that place;

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[1] This report, in the writing of Jacob Read, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 32, folios 145–149.

~~And whereas there has not been more than Nine States Represented in the Committee of the States since their Meeting on the 26th day of June last, and from the nature of things it is not to be reasonably expected such a Public body should be Unanimous in their sentiments upon Affairs of General concernment to the Union, however sincerely disposed every Member may be to promote its best interest; without which Unanimity no Act can be passed, except that of Adjourning, from day to day: And it is to be expected, that in consequence of such Adjournment the States of Delaware, New York, Connecticut and Rhode Island, neither of which have been represented in the Committee of the States since their Meeting as above, may become represented therein. And as there is not at present any business before the Committee of the States, which requires their immediate attention, which may not be seasonably finished, it is probable a more convenient opportunity may not present itself for their Adjourning without injury to the Public, and for carrying into effect the removal of the Public Records and papers, and arranging the same, against the next Meeting of Congress, which is indispensably necessary to be done.~~

And as there is not at present any business before the Committee of the States, that require their immediate attention, which may not be seasonably finished:

And whereas there has not been more than nine states represented in the Committee of the States, since their meeting on the 26th day of June last; and as no act, except that of adjourning from day to day, can be passed but by their unanimous consent; and as the delegates now representing two of the states in the Committee of the States, have informed them, that they are under the necessity of returning to their respective states in the course of the next week, and have no expectation that their states will be shortly represented by any other delegates, which will prevent the Committee of the States proceeding to business for an uncertain time; and as a continuance of their session, without a representation of at least nine states, would be altogether useless, the Committee of the States are of opinion, that as a more convenient opportunity cannot present itself for their adjourning, without injury to the public, and for carrying into effect the removal of the public records and papers, and arranging the same against the next meeting of Congress, which is indispensably necessary to be done; it is their duty, under these circumstances, to adjourn from hence to Trenton:

Therefore, Resolved, That on this 3d day of August instant the Committee of the States shall stand adjourned to meet at Trenton, in the State of New Jersey, on the second Monday of September next; and that the chairman be, and he hereby is authorised and directed, to adjourn the Committee of the States, on the said 3d day of August instant to meet at Trenton, on the said second Monday of September next, for the dispatch of public business.

Resolved, That the Secretary of Congress, and the Under Secretary in the Office for Foreign Affairs, take order for the removal and arrangement of the public records and papers, in their respective offices as above mentioned, as soon after the day of the adjournment of the Committee of the States, from this city to Trenton, as may be, so that the whole may be in order by the day of their meeting there.[1]

A motion was then made by Mr. [Edward] Hand, seconded by Mr. [Jacob] Read, to postpone the consideration of the motion made by Mr. [Francis] Dana, in order to introduce the following:

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to prepare an ordinance for making the necessary arrangements of the treasury, and for more particularly defining the powers of the board of treasury; to revise the institution of the office of foreign affairs, and of the war office; and to report such alterations as they may judge necessary.[2]

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[1] This motion, in the writing of Jonathan Blanchard and Francis Dana, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress,* No. 32, folio 67.

[2] This motion, in the writing of Edward Hand, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress,* No. 32, folio 71.

On the question to postpone for the purpose abovementioned, the yeas and nays being required by Mr. [Francis] Dana,

New Hampshire,		*Virginia,*	
Mr. Blanchard,	no	Mr. Hardy,	ay
Massachusetts,		*North Carolina,*	
Mr. Dana,	no	Mr. Spaight,	ay
New Jersey,		*South Carolina,*	
Mr. Dick,	no	Mr. Read,	ay
Pennsylvania,		*Georgia,*	
Mr. Hand,	ay	Mr. Houstoun,	ay
Maryland,			
Mr. Chase,	ay		

So the question was lost.

On the question to agree to the motion of Mr. [Francis] Dana, the yeas and nays being required by him,

New Hampshire,		*Virginia,*	
Mr. Blanchard,	ay	Mr. Hardy,	no
Massachusetts,		*North Carolina,*	
Mr. Dana,	ay	Mr. Spaight,	ay
New Jersey,		*South Carolina,*	
Mr. Dick,	ay	Mr. Read,	ay
Pennsylvania,		*Georgia,*	
Mr. Hand,	no	Mr. Houstoun,	no
Maryland,			
Mr. Chase,	no		

So the question was lost.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4, 1784.

Eight states only attending, viz. New Hampshire, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pensylvania, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia; the Committee of the States is adjourned till ten o'clock to-morrow.

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Sir, New York Augst 13. 1784

On my arrival here I found the Governor was at Albany, where he proposes soon to hold a treaty with the Six Nations, & I am informed that the Chiefs of the ~~more~~ western tribes are expected to attend. How far this State has a right to hold such treaties the Commee must judge. But while the Indians are induced to believe by such proceedings that there are distinct, independent & perhaps jealous Powers to treat with them, they will certainly avail themselves of it, much to the disadvantage of the general Confederacy.

treaty so held under an express Act of the Legislature

No measures have yet been taken in this State, towards raising their quota of men for garrisoning the frontier posts nor can I learn that there are any in contemplation. Neither Mr. Walcot nor Mr. Butler is yet arrived here.

It will in all probability be unnecessary to lay before the Indians authentic copies of the treaties with France & Gr. Britain by which the entire sovereignty of this Country is acknowledged to be in the U. S. I therefore

take the liberty of requesting that the
Secretary may be directed to transmit
to the Commissioners exemplifications
of the Treaty of Alliance with France
& of peace with England, with the
ratifications & great Seal annexed
Mr H. Laurens arrived here yester-
day, in seven weeks from London;
He brings an account of the favorable
disposition of the King of England &
of his ministers towards a Commer-
cial treaty with these States. He will
probably write himself.

I have the honor to be, with
the greatest respect, Sir Yr most
Obedt Servt. Arthur Lee

The Chairman of the
Committee of the States

Philadelphia 18 1784
Jon. Williams Esq.

[No. 5464.]

Major Phil. Skene to Governor Clinton Desires to Return to America and Become a Citizen of New York.

Chelsea, the 17th of July, 1784.

Sir, Lest my former Letters upon this subject may have miscarried, I take this opportunity of acquainting Your Excellency that relying upon the integrity of the Legislature of New York and its national faith pledged for by the General Congress, instigated by the same predilection in favour of America, which has induced me to lay out so considerable a part of my Fortune formerly there—and as my conduct however unpleasing on other Accounts from the necessity of my situation, has I hope been approved of, as an honest man by all—agreeable to which I purpose to avail myself of my Claim to Your Excellency's & the protection of the state, to obtain the priviledge of becoming a Faithfull Citizen thereof, which my situation as a British subject will I hope admit —and I am to request that you will be pleased to represent my Situation to the Legislature in order that any difficulty's may be removed respecting me—as I have purposely avoided laying myself under further Tye, or obligation to this Country, having since the Peace been in neither pay, or Employment.

I can assure your Excellency that if I am allowed that Priviledge, I am disposed to enter as heartily into the Interest of America as a good subject can be wished for, and I beg leave to refer to Hon'ble. Henry Laurence who is my Friend and no stranger to my Sentiments long before Peace took place I have the Honor to be with Great respect, Your Excellencys most obedient humble Servant.

Philip Skene.

His Excellency Governor Clinton, New York.

[Nos. 5468-5469.]

The Contemplated Indian Council—Abraham Cuyler Forwards a Letter from Joseph Brant to Governor Clinton—Sentiments of James Duane on Indian Affairs.

Albany, August 6th, 1784.

Sir, I have the Honor of Inclosing to your Excellency, a Letter from Joseph Brandt, which I forward by Express, when the Runner, Mentioned in the Inclosed, Arrives shall Immediately Acquaint your Exc'y their with, Remain, your Excellencys Most obedient Humble Servt.

Abraham Cuyler.

To George Clinton.

JOSEPH BRANT TO HENRY GLEN.

Niagara, the 21 July, 1784.

Sir, In our Last, we Promised to Let You hear from us as soon as our Messenger Returned from our Western Confederates who are now Returned—and tell us the Chiefs of the Different Nations are on their way in order to accompany the six Nations to the intended meeting at Fort Stanwix [Fort Schuyler] where we Expect to Meet the Deputy from the Diff'n't states; we should be glad You would acquaint Congress of this, that the whole of the States May have time to send there Representatives to attend, as we wish to settle Matters finally at this Council with all Concerned, at which time Proper Places May be fixed on for any future Meetings. We Expect the Chiefs from the Westward in a few Days on their Arrival. We shall immediately Despatch a Runner to Let You Know the Exact time. We shall be at the place appointed. We have for some time Expected to hear from you Respecting what we mensioned to Mr. Ryckman about the

Fire Place Being at Fort Stanwix. I am, Sir, yr. most obed. Hum'bl. Servand

Jos. Brant.
In behalf of the Confederates.

To Henry Glen, Esqr.

JAMES DUANE EXPRESSES HIS VIEWS ON THE INDIAN QUESTION.

Great difficulty arises from the interference of the proposed Treaty with the Authority & the views of Congress.

Five of the Six Tribes of Indians were at open War with the United States. The general Treaty of Peace doth not mention nor extend to them. Congress, therefore, on the 9th art. of the Confed. claims the exclusive Right to make this peace; And If the Tribes are to be considered as independant nations, detached from the State, and absolutely unconnected with it, the Claim of Congress woud be uncontrovertable.

There is then an indispensable Necessity that these Tribes should be treated as antient Dependants on this State, placed under its protection, with all their territorial Rights, by their own consent publickly manifested in solemn and repeated Treaties. Of this there is sufficient evidence and particularly by the Deeds of 1701 and 1726 which tho' in the name of the King were obtained at the Expence of the people of this State, and for their Benefit. On this ground the Tribes in question may fall under the character of Members of the State, with the Management of whom Congress have no concern.*

But the Spirit of the Message from the Indians rendered questionable whether they will submit to be treated as Dependants.

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*Confed'n. 9th Art. 4th Clause.—J. D.

*They assume a perfect Equality; and instead of Contrition for their perfidious Behaviour, seem ever to consider themselves as the Party courted and sollicited for Reconciliation and Favour.

This then will be a point to be managed with Skill and Delicacy, nor will any Care bestowd on it be misapplied for besides the Respect which we owe to the Union, our own particular Honor, Interest and Safety require that these Tribes shoud be reconciled to the Idea of being Members of the State, dependant upon its government and resting upon its Protection. If we adopt the disgraceful system of pensioning, courting and flattering them as great and mighty nations, we shall once more like the Albanians be their Fools and Slaves, and this Revolution in my Eyes will have lost more than half its' Value.

From these observations it will follow that the Stile, as well as the substance, of the Communications on the part of Government are very material. And I may add that instead of conforming to the ceremonies practiced in Negociations among the Indians it woud be wise to bring them to adopt, gradually our Forms.†

1st. Then If it will not be too great an innovation which I think is not to be apprehended. It woud use neither Belts nor strings in any Communication instead of it, all Messages or Communications shoud be signed or sealed or both.

2nd. I woud never suffer the word nations, or Six Nations, or Confederates or Council Fire at Onondaga, or any other Form which woud revive or seem to confirm their former Ideas of Inde-

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*The piece bears a strong appearance of a British Emissary in its manner and Compaction. The Indians are used to be respectful in their address. This is familiar and even impertinent.—J. D.

†At an interview with some Southern Indians a Committee of Congress adopted this Idea, & told the Indians it was not the usage of Congress to deliver strings or Belts.—J. D.

Niagara August 10th, 1784

My dear friend

I take the opportunity to acquaint you that I am to set off from this place tomorrow for Fort Stanwix to meet some the Mericans there if I can in order to move their council fire place from there more in to our country if Possible for many good reasons for, we do so, there is nine war chiefs be sides, one, it will be about fifteen of the whole is a going. There is twenty odd Indians there from Detroit of the different nations to attend the council with us, to settle peace with the Rebels, but they dont chuse to go any further than here, we find most all our Southred brethren are rather incline to war than peace, but rather in foolish manner, we shall do all we can to set them right

To
Major Mathews

those our friends of the southred has complaint Exceedingly the ammunition being scarce with them, & we the five nation likewise little uneasy ourselves of not having any ammunitions, with the goods which Sir John has Sended to us this Spring, I have wrote to him concerning ammunition particularly, but never heard any further abouted, dear friend I wish you would Explain this to General Haldimand for it is a searious matter to us, I do sure you that we dont trust the Rebels well Enough all together, neither Shall be prest by them with out fighting them to the last, this is the notion some of us has, Which reason we dont wish to give them opportunity or find falt with us, & wishing to have ammunition plenty. if in case we Should Settle peace with those mericans quietly and be no Signs of any danger in our country I mean than to go to England in the fall & to see whether I can recover Some our losses by the late war and for other business, but I can not go without the will of General Haldimand & recommandation, as for the Expences of going there, I shall try to bear, myself & some my friends will join with me I mean to leave my family at Cataroque in my new fine House there, I should be glad to hear from you as soon as possible particular of my proposing to go to England. I understand that your friend Col. Butler is a going to Quebec the first Vessel from this. so I refer to him to Explain to you all our transactions here & situations of our affairs & our dispostions. I should be Exceeding sorry if General Haldimand goes of without seeing him & Shake by the hand & thank him for all his goodness & kind to me & relations. I wrote you some time ago, but I made very great mistake the out side direction was for Sir John the Letter was yours I hope you have recivd, before this time, I am Sir your most Humble servt,

& friend

Jos. Brant

To

Major Mathews

84

From
Joseph Brant
from Niagara August 10th
R.d: Sept. 16th.

Moment also. They are used to be called Brethren, Sachems and Warriors of the Six Nations. I hope it will never be repeated. It is sufficient to make them sensible that they are spoken to: without complementing 20 or 30 Mohawks as a nation and a few more Tusceroroes & Onondagoes as distinct nations. It woud be not less absurd than mischievous. They shoud rather be taught that by separating from the Oneidas, and entering into a wicked war, they had weakened and destroyed themselves and that the publick opinion of their importance had long since ceased.

[No. 5470.]

Governor Clinton to Arthur Lee, Richard Butler & Oliver Wolcott, U. S. Commissioners in Relation to the Frontier Posts and the Coming Council with the Indians at Fort Schuyler.

Albany, August 13, 1784.

Gentlemen, Your letter of the 10th of this Month by Mr. Monroe has just been handed to me.

The recommendation of Congress to the State to raise from the Militia a certain number of Troops for the purpose of Garrisoning the frontier Posts and protecting the Treaties to be held with the Indians did not reach me till some time in July. The Legislature of the State who alone were competent to this business had then dispersed after a session which from the peculiar circumstances of the State had detained them from the fall untill late in the spring, and it was not only my opinion but that of every Member of the Legislature whom I had an opportunity of consulting—that it would then be impracticable to convene them together; nor indeed did the urgency of the case seem to require that they should be put to so great an inconvenience—for tho' they had assembled and complied with the recommendation of Congress—it would have been already too late in the season to have established the Garrison in which the Troops were required; and besides I had rece'd information (in a manner which assured credit) & which congress could not be apprized of at the time that altho' the Definitive treaty was officially rece'd in Canada no Orders had come from Europe for Evacuating the Posts—and I have good reasons to believe that untill such orders are rece'd no measures will be taken for that purpose. If, therefore, the Legislature were to raise a permanent force as recommended—they could not be applied to the purpose proposed, & would only be a useless addition to Expences which we are already but too little able or disposed to discharge.

I conceive myself however authorized to draw from the Militia a force sufficient If any should be necessary, to protect the Commissioners of Congress in negociation with the Indians and this will in a great measure save the unnecessary expence attending a present permanent force.

The Indians of the Six nations whom I have requested to convene at Fort Schuyler, have advised me that they will be accompanied by deputies from other nations possessing the territory within the Jurisdiction of the United States. I shall have no objection to your improving this incident to the advantage of the United States, expecting however and positively stipulating that no long agrement be entered into with Indians residing within the Jurisdiction of this State, with whom only I mean to treat, prejudicial to its rights. Those engagements being made on your part, you may rely on every exertion in my power, and that of my Colleagues, to promote the Interest of the United States which I flatter myself, no state in the federal union has at any time more chearfully & effectually supported than this.

[No. 5474.]

Governor Clinton to James Deane, Interpreter, as to the Coming Meeting at Fort Stanwix.

Albany, Aug. 14th, 1784.

Sir, Mr. Ryckman who is charged with a message to the Indians will deliver you this Letter & will inform you that a Treaty is to be held with the Six Nations at Fort Schuyler at an early period—the exact time cannot yet be ascertained or you should have been informed of it before this; whenever it takes place we shall expect to see you; and from the Zeal and attachment we are persuaded you have for a state of which you have been so long a Citizen we doubt not, you will lend every aid in your power towards rendering our negotiations effectual.

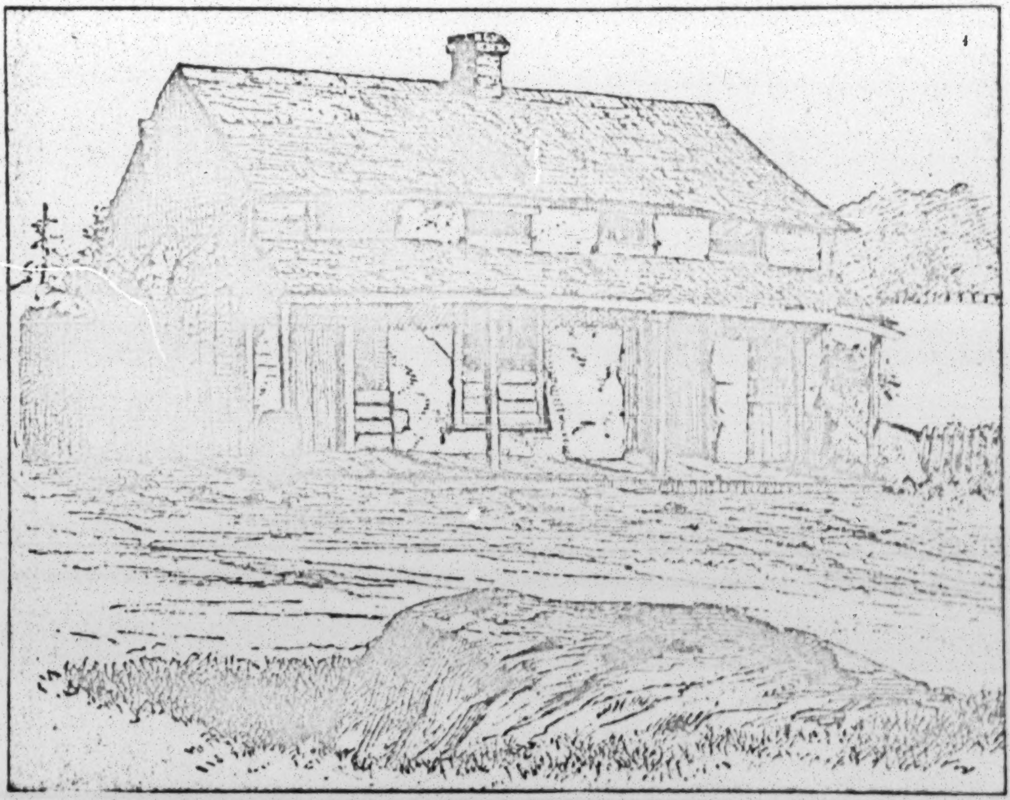
In behalf of the Commissioners I am, Sir, Your very humble Servt.

M. Jas Deane.

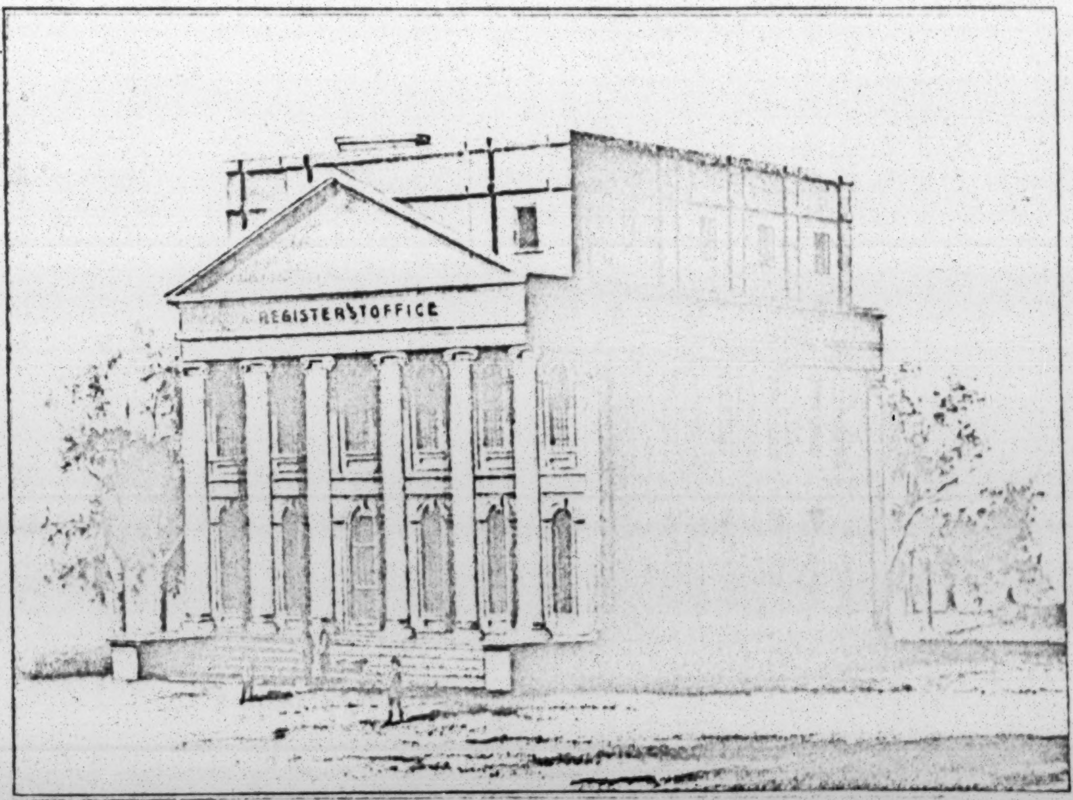
[No. 5475.]

Governor Clinton Invites Chancellor Livingston, on the Part of the Commissioners, to Participate in the Council with the Indians.

Dear Sir, The Commissioners for Treating with the Indians being vested with the power of associating with them such Gentlemen as they may think necessary to promote the object of this commission, have at a meeting held this day taken the liberty of including you among others. I take the earliest opportunity of acquainting you therewith, and must request that if you can possibly make it convenient you would attend. We are not yet able to ascertain the exact time when the treaty will be held, but I



THE BLUE BELL TAVERN AT 181ST STREET AND BROADWAY (ALBANY POST ROAD), NEW YORK CITY.


REGISTER'S OFFICE

THE PROVOST, AFTERWARDS THE HALL OF RECORDS AS IT APPEARED IN ITS LATER DAYS.

immagine that if you are here by the beginning of the week after the next it will be in time.

Albany, Aug. 14, 1784.

Mr. Chancellor Livingston.

[No. 5477a.]

Copy of Message from Arthur Lee & Richard Butler, United States Commissioners, to the Chiefs of the Six Nations that They Will Meet Them at Fort Schuyler on the 20th prox.

Peter and other Oneida & Tuscarora Chiefs informed his Excellency the Governor that they had received a letter from Arthur Lee & Richard Butler which they were desireous he should see but they had left it with their other Papers at Oneida; they, therefore, preferred to send a Runner for it which they accordingly did & it being produced to the Commissioners the following Copy was taken from it.

THE MESSAGE.

To the Sachems and Warriors &c of the Oneidas & Tuskaroras Allies of the United States and Tribes of the Six Nations.

Brethren, The late trouble in which we have been mutually involved being happily ended—Congress have thought proper to appoint us Commissioners to transact all kind of public business between the United States and our Brethren the Oneidas & Tuskaroras and to settle a general Peace with all the Indian Nations from the Ohio River to the Great Lakes.

We now inform you by the Hand of our Messenger & Brother Samuel Kirkland, and Mr. James Deane, the Interpreter and Servant of Congress that we are making every preperation and exertion to expedite a meeting with you.

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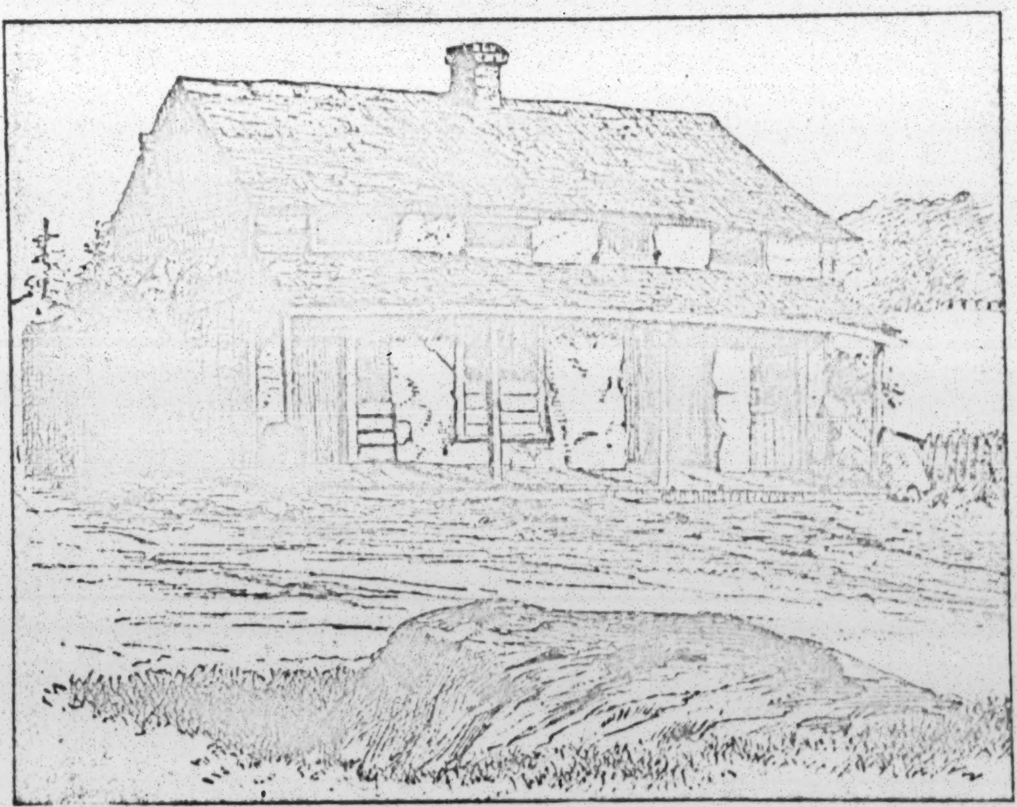

The Blue Bell Tavern at 181st Street and Broadway (Albany Post Road), New York City.

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Governor of New York. We know nothing of his intention or meaning, he not being authorised by Congress. Yet should you be set out to attend that Treaty, it would be hard to give you the fatigue of another Journey and although it was our intention the Great Council Fire of Congress with the six Nations should be held at Niagara, we will in order to accommodate you, meet you at Fort Stanwix on the twentieth day of September next where we expect you will certainly attend.

We are your friends and brothers:

L. S. Arthur Lee.
L. S. Rich'd Butler.

Indorsed

Message to the Oneidas & Tuskaroras August 18th, 1784—New York.

I do certify the preceding to be a true Copy.

exd P. Mat: Visscher.

[No. 5478.]

Colonel James Monroe at Schenectady is Unable to Understand Why the British Continue to Hold Military Posts in New York State.

Schenectady, Augt. 19, 1784.

Dear Sir, Upon confering on my arrival here with Mr. McFarlin, & others possessing the latest intelligence from the posts in possession of the British, I found yr. Excellency's suggestions respecting the difficulty of passing them, entirely confirmed. The officer at Oswego inform'd him that his orders from the commander in chief restrained him from suffering any person, even of their own army, to pass unless authoris'd by himself. Unless I co'd pass further it wo'd be useless for me to go to Oswego. Your Excellency will be so kind as [to] inform me

whether you have rec'd any recent intelligence respecting this matter.

It is surprising to me that Genl. Haldimand hath not evacuated these posts long since. Carlton acted under the provisional treaty as conclusive, & I believe all the states in those points which fell within their jurisdiction, in the stipulations of the treaty, affix'd that as the Era at w'h it sho'd commence. Why then Haldim'd sho'd still keep the posts within our bounds, & observe in restraint to us, the rigid discipline of war, is a measure w'h I cannot conceive upon what principle will be justified, his being an old veteran, averse to suffer order to relax, will be but a trifling palliative, the delay of orders or the arrival of Carlton, may be better accounted for, by a petition, I hear hath been presented the ministry by some merchants, praying that the evacuation might be deferr'd as long as possible, than from any other cause. I shall probably stay here a few days till I hear further upon this subject & shall be under obligations to yr. Excellency for any information you may obtain. I have the honor to be With great respect & esteem, yr. very humble servt.

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The United States Commissioners Suggest to Governor Clinton that New York's Course at the Coming Indian Council Should be Subordinate to the General Treaty.

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As the particular nature of the business, your Excellency is to transact with the Six Nations, on the part of this State, is not known to us, we cannot form a proper judgment how far it is compatible with the Commission we have the honor to bear from the United States in Congress assembled. But we submit it to your Excellency's determination, whether that business will not be more properly transacted at the same time with, and in subordination to the General Treaty.

Such conduct on the part of the State of Pensylvania has been generally approved of, for its wisdom and consideral policy. It is with a view that this State may have an opportunity of shewing the same respect for the consideration, and may avail itself of the same advantages; that we have the honor of communicating to your Excellency, our determination to meet the Indians of the six Nations at Fort Stanwix on the 20th of September next.

We have the honor to be with the greatest esteem Yr. Excellency's most Obed't. Servants

Arthur Lee
Rich'd Butler.

His Excellency the Governor of the State of New York.

[No. 5480.]

James Deane, Interpreter, Informs Lieutenant Colbreath That Brant is Due the Following Day and Requests Two Gallons of Rum.

Kanonwarehare, Aug't. 20th, 1784.

Sir, Two Messengers have just arrived, Express from Capt. Brant; they bring a Letter for Mr. Glen which the Six Nations

desire may be forwarded immediately, as expeditiously as possible. Brant will be here To morrow. Capt. Jacob Reed desires you to send him Two Gallons of Rum from the public Store for the Use of Brant & party. Capt. Jacob further desires you to prevent the trader from selling Rum to the bearers of this, whereby they may be detained, only wishes you to give the them some provision & a small matter of rum for their refreshment.

I am, Sir, Your most Obed't. humble Servant

James Deane.

Wm. Colbreth.

[No. 5482.]

Peter Ryckman to Henry Glen Anent Joseph Brant and the Forthcoming Council.

Fort Schuyler, 23d Augt., 1784.

Sir, I met the runners of Capt. Brandt, on Fryday the 20th Instant at Canasserago. I emediately opened the Letter they had and found his procedings. I than persued to se if I could not meate him at the Cayoga-Farre or the Seneca Country to Over set his sceme. I than mat him the next day in the Morning in Onindago. If I had met him at the Cayoga-Farre or the Seneca Country I would have endavoured to Overset his sceme and the whole of the Six Nations would have come down; it seams that he is now some thing uneasy about it. I left him this morning in Onida with Twenty-four in Number and Expact him here to Morrow as he did not chuse to stay thare.

I would have come down myself this Morning but thought best to stay here untill Capt. Brandt has Rec'd an Answer from his Letter from his Excellency or the Commissioners. Brandt advised me to stay here untill he has Rec'd his Answer. He says

Governor of New York. We know nothing of his intention or meaning, he not being authorised by Congress. Yet should you be set out to attend that Treaty, it would be hard to give you the fatigue of another Journey and although it was our intention the Great Council Fire of Congress with the six Nations should be held at Niagara, we will in order to accommodate you, meet you at Fort Stanwix on the twentieth day of September next where we expect you will certainly attend.

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I would have come down myself this Morning but thought best to stay here untill Capt. Brandt has Rec'd an Answer from his Letter from his Excellency or the Commissioners. Brandt advised me to stay here untill he has Rec'd his Answer. He says

necessity upon us of meeting them there, in order to conclude a peace, in the name of the United States, with such of those Nations as have been hostile. We have, therefore, sent a Messenger to announce this intention to the Indians.

As the particular nature of the business, your Excellency is to transact with the Six Nations, on the part of this State, is not known to us, we cannot form a proper judgment how far it is compatible with the Commission we have the honor to bear from the United States in Congress assembled. But we submit it to your Excellency's determination, whether that business will not be more properly transacted at the same time with, and in subordination to the General Treaty.

Such conduct on the part of the State of Pensylvania has been generally approved of, for its wisdom and consideral policy. It is with a view that this State may have an opportunity of shewing the same respect for the consideration, and may avail itself of the same advantages; that we have the honor of communicating to your Excellency, our determination to meet the Indians of the six Nations at Fort Stanwix on the 20th of September next.

We have the honor to be with the greatest esteem Yr. Excellency's most Obed't. Servants

Arthur Lee
Rich'd Butler.

His Excellency the Governor of the State of New York.

[No. 5480.]

James Deane, Interpreter, Informs Lieutenant Colbreath That Brant is Due the Following Day and Requests Two Gallons of Rum.

Kanonwarehare, Aug't. 20th, 1784.

Sir, Two Messengers have just arrived, Express from Capt. Brant; they bring a Letter for Mr. Glen which the Six Nations

desire may be forwarded immediately, as expeditiously as possible. Brant will be here To morrow. Capt. Jacob Reed desires you to send him Two Gallons of Rum from the public Store for the Use of Brant & party. Capt. Jacob further desires you to prevent the trader from selling Rum to the bearers of this, whereby they may be detained, only wishes you to give the them some provision & a small matter of rum for their refreshment.

I am, Sir, Your most Obed't. humble Servant

James Deane.

Wm. Colbreth.

[No. 5482.]

Peter Ryckman to Henry Glen Anent Joseph Brant and the Forthcoming Council.

Fort Schuyler, 23d Augt., 1784.

Sir, I met the runners of Capt. Brandt, on Fryday the 20th Instant at Canasserago. I emediately opened the Letter they had and found his procedings. I than persued to se if I could not meate him at the Cayoga-Farre or the Seneca Country to Over set his sceme. I than mat him the next day in the Morning in Onindago. If I had met him at the Cayoga-Farre or the Seneca Country I would have endavoured to Overset his sceme and the whole of the Six Nations would have come down; it seams that he is now some thing uneasy about it. I left him this morning in Onida with Twenty-four in Number and Expact him here to Morrow as he did not chuse to stay thare.

I would have come down myself this Morning but thought best to stay here untill Capt. Brandt has Rec'd an Answer from his Letter from his Excellency or the Commissioners. Brandt advised me to stay here untill he has Rec'd his Answer. He says

that he has not rec'd. the Ans'r of the Speach he has sent down by me to his Excal'y, and on that account he thought it Best to come down with some of the Cheafs of the Six Nations to see how he should Act. He also says that he thinks he would be able with the Cheafs he has with him, to make Peace with this State, but not with the United States, as he has no Order to that purpose. He also says that he has his Runers ready and all the Six Nations are all awaiting for the word to come down.

When I met Capt. Brandt, I perswaded vary hard upon him to sand some of his Roners for to fech the whole of the Six nations down here; he than told me that Furrain Nations could not come down farther than Onindago, as that had been Always their Fyre place, and they are now at Niagara. I than told him that his Excalancy could not come up that leanth as he was not very harty at present, and it seams that he has now give up the point. He further Informs me that the Rave. Mr. Catlin has Informed the Onida Indians that this State Intanded to settle the Onidas More to the Westward; he also Advised them not to give Over a fut of thair Ground to this State; he was thare the 22d & 23d of last June the Vary time I came from Niagara. The same Onida which came with me in Company from the Cayoga-Farre to Onida brought Capt. Brandt the News. And that is my Whole Opinion that detains the whole of the Six Nations. I would be vary glad if you could send me two or three had of Cattle to this place & some Salt. I shall desire Mr. Coalbreath to give no provisions to any of the Indians but to Capt. Brandt and his party. No More at prasent but remain, Sir, Your Humb'l Sert.

Peter Ryckman.

To Henry Glen, Esqr, Schenectady.

[No. 5484.]*

Governor Clinton Informs Henry Glen That He and His Associates Will Proceed Shortly to the Council Place.

Albany, 25th August, 1784.

Sir, In Consequence of the Letter from Capt. Brant and Mr. Deane, which you forwarded, I have had a meeting with the Commissioners and Associates in this City, the result of which is that we will leave this On Friday afternoon for Schenectady, and the next day proceed on our way to Fort Schuyler. Should you conceive it necessary to send Brant information of this, you will be pleased to forward a Messenger for the purpose.

I expect that every thing will be prepared to leave Schenectady Early on Saturday Morning. Four Waggons will be necessary to convey the Gen't and their baggage from here, and you will from thence be able to determine what additional number will be wanted and which you will be pleased to provide.

I am, Sir, Your Most obt. Servt.

Henry Glen, Esqr.

[No. 5483.]

Governor Clinton through Henry Glen Notifies Joseph Brant of a Change in His Time of Proceeding to the Council.

Albany, 25th Augt., 1784.

Sir, Owing to some Circumstances which have occurred since I wrote you this Morning, I have thought it adviseable to address the enclosed Letter to Capt. Brant which when you have read you will please to seal and forward without the least Delay as also the inclosed Letter to Mr. Deane.

I am Sir Your Most Obedt. Servt.

G. C.

Henry Glen Esqr.

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*For reasons that will appear obvious in document 5483, the present Editor has exchanged the places of documents 5483 and 5484.—STATE HISTORIAN.

GOVERNOR CLINTON TO JOSEPH BRANT.

Albany, Augt. 25, 1784.

Sir, Your Letter to Mr. Henry Glen of the 21st Inst. was received by me yesterday, and agreable to your request I now inform you, that I shall set out from this place with the Commissioners appointed on behalf of this State, to treat with the six nations on the 27th Instant and immediately proceed to Fort Schuyler where I hope to meet you, if the weather proofs favourable, in five days thereafter at farthest.

The long time I have already been detained here on this business, makes me anxious to bring it to as speedy a Close as possible; it shall, therefore, not meet with the least possible delay on my part.

I am, Sir, Your most obed. Serv't.

To Cap'n Joseph Brant at Canajowarie.

GOVERNOR CLINTON TO JAMES DEANE.

Albany, 25 August, 1784.

Sir, (Mr. Deane)

Some days ago I took the Liberty to write you by Mr. Ryckman, and to inform you that in Consequence of a Letter from Capt. Brant to Henry Glen, Esqr., signifying that Deputes from the Six Nations were on their Way to the proposed Treaty at Fort Schuyler, and of your Letter to Mr. Colbreadth of the 20th mentioning that they would be the next day at Kanonwaharie, I propose sitting out from this for Fort Schuyler with the Commissioners on the part of this State on Friday next, so that in five days thereafter, (the weather proving favorable) I hope to have the pleasure of seeing you at Fort Schuyler, the long time I have been detained here on this business and the necessity I am under to be speedily in New York to meet the Legislature, makes me anxious to bring it to as speedy a Close as possible, and will prevent the least delay on my part for any Considerations whatever.

I am, Sir, Your Most obt. Servt.

G. C.

[No. 5485.]

The Commissioners for Indian Affairs Discuss at Albany the Approaching Council.

Albany, 25th August, 1784.

At a Meeting of the Commissioners for Indian Affairs &c.

Present

His Excellency Governor Clinton & Coll. Cuyler;
Genl. Schuyler;
Genl. Ten Broeck;
Judge Yates;
Ab. Yates;
Peter W. Yates;
John Ja. Beeckman;
Mat: Visscher.

His Excellency laid before the Board a Letter from Capt. Joseph Brant of the 11 Inst and a Letter from James Deane of the 20th, relative to the arrival of the Indians at the place appointed to hold the Council.

General Gansevoort and Col. Gerardus Lansing associated with the Commissioners.

Messrs Peter Ryckman and John J. Bleecker appointed Interpreters.

To take Evan's Map along, and such other Maps as respect the Western Territory.

The Law of 1780 Ceding certain grants of this Land to the United States, with the cession made by the Delegate's Letter to Henry Glen, Esqr dated this day forwarded.

The following Letter was drafted and agreed to & dispatched.*

Genl. Gansevoort & Mr. Gerardus Lansing were named & associated with the Commissioners.

General Schuyler, Judge Yates & Mr. Visscher appointed a Committee to Draft a speech to the Indians on opening the Treaty agreeable to the Instructions to the Commissioners &c. & report the same at the next Meeting.

The Commissioners then adjourned to meet To morrow Evening at Six o'Clock at the same Place.

[No. 5486.]

Henry Glen Notifies Governor Clinton that Arrangements for Proceeding to Fort Schuyler Have Been Made and He Invites the Governor to be His Guest at Schenectady.

Schenectady, 26th August, 1784.

Sir. Yours of last Evening with letters for Captain Brandt & Mr. Dean Came Save. I have Early this Morning Dispatched an Express to Fort Schuyler, with the two letters. But Since the Express has Gone I Received by Chance opertunety, the Inclosed letter† of Mr. Ryckman from Fort Schuyler. I have made the necessary arangments for our Departer from Hence on Saturday morning & the different stations Between this & Fort Herkermer will be a war of our Coming. I have made out a

rout for our Journey. I shall be happy If your Excellency will take a Bed at my House to morrow night.

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*See document 5484, page 343.

†See document 5482, page 341.

I am with due Regard, your Excellencies Most Obied. Humble Ser't.

Henry Glen.

To His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr. &c &c &c.

[No. 5487.]

Governor Clinton Requests James Deane to Meet Him at Fort Schuyler.

Fort Schuyler, 30th Augt., 1784.

Sir, I arrived at this Place this Evening and I shall be happy to see you here Tomorow as early as you can make it convenient. Capt. Brant would also wish to see you here as he is informed that you are entrusted by the Commissioners of the United States to make certain Communications to the Hostile Indian Nations, which he Expresses a Desire of conversing with one to assist in giving them Despatch.

I am, Sir, Your Most Obedt. Sert.

Mr. James Deane.

[No. 5488.]

James Deane Explains to Governor Clinton His Reasons for not Arriving Sooner at Fort Schuyler.

Kanonwarohare, Augst. 30th, 1784.

Sir, I have had the Honor to receive Two Letters from Your Excellency on the subject of the Indian Treaty, previous to the One of this date. In Consequence of the first by Mr. Ryckman, I made a journey to Fort Schuyler, on receiving Information of Your Arrival at that place, which proved premature. On the

that he has not rec'd. the Ans'r of the Speach he has sent down by me to his Excal'y, and on that account he thought it Best to come down with some of the Cheafs of the Six Nations to see how he should Act. He also says that he thinks he would be able with the Cheafs he has with him, to make Peace with this State, but not with the United States, as he has no Order to that purpose. He also says that he has his Runers ready and all the Six Nations are all awaiting for the word to come down.

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Governor Clinton Informs Henry Glen That He and His Associates Will Proceed Shortly to the Council Place.

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I am, Sir, Your Most obt. Servt.

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Governor Clinton through Henry Glen Notifies Joseph Brant of a Change in His Time of Proceeding to the Council.

Albany, 25th Augt., 1784.

Sir, Owing to some Circumstances which have occurred since I wrote you this Morning, I have thought it adviseable to address the enclosed Letter to Capt. Brant which when you have read you will please to seal and forward without the least Delay as also the inclosed Letter to Mr. Deane.

I am Sir Your Most Obedt. Servt.

G. C.

Henry Glen Esqr.

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*For reasons that will appear obvious in document 5483, the present Editor has exchanged the places of documents 5483 and 5484.—STATE HISTORIAN.

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Sir, Your Letter to Mr. Henry Glen of the 21st Inst. was received by me yesterday, and agreable to your request I now inform you, that I shall set out from this place with the Commissioners appointed on behalf of this State, to treat with the six nations on the 27th Instant and immediately proceed to Fort Schuyler where I hope to meet you, if the weather proofs favourable, in five days thereafter at farthest.

The long time I have already been detained here on this business, makes me anxious to bring it to as speedy a Close as possible; it shall, therefore, not meet with the least possible delay on my part.

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Sir, (Mr. Deane)

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I am, Sir, Your Most obt. Servt.

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Albany, 25th August, 1784.

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Genl. Ten Broeck;
Judge Yates;
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General Gansevoort and Col. Gerardus Lansing associated with the Commissioners.

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I am, Sir, Your Most obt. Servt.

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I am Sir Your Most Obedt. Servt.

G. C.

Henry Glen Esqr.

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hope your Excellency & Council will give me that rank I held in the Continental army. I am with every Respect
your Excellencys hm' serv',
JOHN ARMSTRONG.*

Sunbury, 24th August, 1784.
Directed,
His Excellency John Dickinson, Philadelphia.
Capt. Green.

Lt. Col. Harmar to Pres. Dickinson, 1784.

Philadelphia, August 25th, 1784.

Sir,

As it is necessary that the officers previous to receiving their commissions should have taken the Oath of allegiance to the State. I can certify to your Excellency & the Honorable Council that Captains Finney, Douglass, Ziegler & McCurdy, likewise Lieut^s Herbert & Doyle, & the Surgeon McDowell have already taken it. The other officers I cannot certify to, but have not the least doubt, but the Oath has been taken by them.

Your Excellency and the Honorable Council may be assured that previous to my delivering them their commissions; I will be well convinced that every one shall have taken the Oath.

I have the honor to be, with the highest Esteem
& Respect, Your Excellency's & the
Honble Councils most obt. Servt.,
JOS. HARMAR.

Directed,
His Excellency, President Dickinson & The Honorable Council.

Report & Resolutions of General Assembly, 1784.

State of Pennsylvania. In General Assembly,
Wednesday, August 25, 1784.—A. M.

The report of the committee read August 23, was read the second time, and adopted as follows, (viz:)

The Committee to whom were referred the several papers relating to Indian affairs, with directions to confer with the Supreme Executive Council; beg leave to report as the joint opinion of that Board and your committee.

That weighty reasons have occurred in favour of the design for holding a conference with the Indians on the part of this State, and if under the present situation of Continental affairs, that measure can be conducted on sure ground and without too unlimited an expense, it ought to take place and be rendered as effectual as this House can make it, under whose auspices a foundation would be thus laid of essential and durable advantages to the public, by extending population, satisfying our officers and soldiers in regard to their donation lands and depreciation certificates, restoring that ancient friendly and profitable intercourse with the Indians and guarding against all occasions of war with them.

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* See Col. Rec., XIV. p. 188.

These are the objects to be attained, truly interesting and so well adapted to insure the attention of this House, that your committee offer the following resolutions.

1st. Resolved that the Supreme Executive Council be authorised and requested to prepare a present of Nine thousand dollars worth of such goods, merchandize and trinkets as are known to be very acceptable among the Indians, to be given them in case a purchase is concluded, but as part of the consideration of such a bargain; And that the said goods be carefully forwarded wherever the commissioners may direct, and the above sum, and any further supply, not exceeding one thousand pounds that Council may think necessary for the said Commissioners contingent expences shall be drawn by the President in Council from the State Treasurer; the said Commissioners to be accountable for such sum as they shall receive.

2dly. Resolved, it is the sense of this House that should the Continental Indian treaty be delayed, the Commissioners on the part of this State, shall notwithstanding proceed and call together the Indians who claimed the unpurchased territory within the limits of this State, particularly the Six Nations, Delawares and Shawanese for the purpose of finally purchasing the said territory agreeable to ancient usage.

3dly. Resolved, that the Supreme Executive Council be requested to furnish such further instructions to the Indian Commissioners as shall appear from time to time, conducive to the good purposes explained in the foregoing resolutions.

Extract from the Minutes.
J. SHALLUS,
Ass^t Clerk of the General Assembly.

PRES. DICKINSON TO LT. COL. ARMSTRONG, 1784.

In Council, August 27, 1784.

Sir,

It is the sense of Council, that until further Measures can be pursued, the Wheat lately reaped on the disputed Lands should be secured for the use of the persons who sowed the same; and we desire, that you will immediately give strict directions for this purpose.

I am with great Esteem Sir,
your most obdt. Servt.,
JOHN DICKINSON.

Directed,
Lieut^t Col. Armstrong.

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* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIV., p. 185.

The Law of 1780 Ceding certain grants of this Land to the United States, with the cession made by the Delegate's Letter to Henry Glen, Esqr dated this day forwarded.

The following Letter was drafted and agreed to & dispatched.*

Genl. Gansevoort & Mr. Gerardus Lansing were named & associated with the Commissioners.

General Schuyler, Judge Yates & Mr. Visscher appointed a Committee to Draft a speech to the Indians on opening the Treaty agreeable to the Instructions to the Commissioners &c. & report the same at the next Meeting.

The Commissioners then adjourned to meet To morrow Evening at Six o'Clock at the same Place.

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Henry Glen Notifies Governor Clinton that Arrangements for Proceeding to Fort Schuyler Have Been Made and He Invites the Governor to be His Guest at Schenectady.

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*See document 5484, page 343.

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I am with due Regard, your Excellencies Most Obied. Humble Ser't.

Henry Glen.

To His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr. &c &c &c.

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your most obdt. Servt.,
JOHN DICKINSON.

Directed,
Lieutt Col. Armstrong.

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* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIV., p. 185.

List of Goods neccessary towards effecting the purchase of the unpurchased Territory within the State of Penn^a.

20¼ Casks Gun-powder,	£42	10	0
1 Ton Barr Lead,	44	00	0
2 Gross Thimbles,		17	0
2 ditto Jews Harps,	7	4	0
2 ditto Morrice Bells.	9	00	0
5 doz. pieces yellow, green and purple Ribban,	35	00	0
5 pieces embossed Flannel,	27	10	0
30 pieces Best London Stroud,	255	00	0
30 ditto Best French Match Coats,	337	10	0
10 ditto Blankets,	73	10	0
20 pieces Half-thicks, purple & White nap,	90	00	0
50 doz. White Ruffled shirts,	525	00	0
5 Doz. Laced Hats,	105	00	0
50 doz. Knives,	17	10	0
10 doz. Hatchets,	12	10	0
10 doz. Pipe Tomahawks,	20	00	0
12 doz. Looking Glasses, (2 Sizes.)	12	00	0
2 M. Awl Blades,	0	10	0
5 M. Needles,	1	15	0
1 C. Vermillion,	56	5	0
50 Rifles,	300	00	0
60 M. Wampum, 30 Black, 30 White.	90	00	0
12 doz. Silver Arm Bands,	217	16	0
12 d^o Wrist bands,	124	00	0
60 ditto Broaches,	36	00	0
2 ditto Gorgets,	34	4	0
12 ditto Nosebobs,	12	00	0
12 ditto Hair pipes,	37	16	0
12 ditto Rings,	9	00	0
6 Pieces Scarlet Broad Cloth,	180	00	0
100lb Brass Wire,	16	10	0
20 doz. Silk Handkerchiefs,	50	00	0
20 ditto pieces Calicoe,	80	00	0
4 doz. Saddles and Bridles,	130	00	0
1000 Flints or 1 Kegg,	1	10	0
1 Groce Shears,	7	10	0
1 ditto Scissars,	6	00	0
1 ditto Horn Combs,	2	8	0
1 Ivory,	10	00	0
12 ditto Morrice Bells, (*Error.*)	9	00	0
1 Hhd. Tobacco,	35	00	0
20 doz. Pipes, (Moravian.)	5	00	0
20 ditto Calicoe Shirts,	150	00	0

50 lb. Thread, (sorted.)	35 00 0
500 lb. Brass Kettles, in nests, (complete.)	75 00 0
100 lb. Small White Beads,	25 00 0
12 Groce Scarlet & Star Gartering,	
12 ditto Green & yellow Bed lace,	
3 Hhds Rum,	60 00 0

Aug. 28, 1784.*

Pres Dickinson to Lt. Col. Armstrong, 1784.

In Council, August 30, 1784.

Sir,

We have received your Letter of the 24th Instant† with the inclosures, & have this Day put them into the Hands of a Committee of the General Assembly.

That Committee is appointed for the purpose of bringing in a Bill to prevent any Interruption by suit of Certiorari or other writ, to legal proceedings for restoring forthwith to the persons who were violently dispossessed in May last the Lands & Tenements which they then occupied.

This Measure is adopted in Conformity to the sentiments of the Board & the Chief Justice, as well as of the Legislative Branch of government, and the Insurgents may be convinced by considering the circumstances existing at the Time when it was adopted, that nothing but a Regard for Equity has prompted it. If they repeat their violences, they will at length render themselves answerable to public Justice for so many offences, that they must expect a very different Treatment, which it is in the Power of this Commonwealth to inflict at the Instant when it is in her Inclination.

We therefore desire that you will order the men who are collected at Bowman's Creek, immediately to disperse; & to inform them and others what will be the Consequences to themselves if they continue to disturb the Peace of the State.

Captain Boyd proposes to set off for Wyoming in a Day or two, who will bring more particular Intelligence.

I am with a very great Esteem, Sir,
your most obedt. and Hbble. Servt.
JOHN DICKINSON.

Lieutenant Colonel Armstrong.

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* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIV., p. 186. † See page 317.

The Council met.

PHILADELPHIA, August 28th, 1784, Saturday.

PRESENT:

His Excellency JOHN DICKINSON, Esquire, President.

The Honorable James Irvine, Samuel John Atlee,
John M'Dowell, Bernard Dougherty, and
Stephen Balliott, John Boyd, Esq'rs.

Ordered, That Captain Joseph Stiles, Commissary of Military Stores, be directed to deliver to the Honorable Samuel John Atlee, Esquire, William Maclay and Francis Johnston, Esquires, Commissioners for holding a treaty with the Indians, or their order, five hundred weight of gun powder, three horsemens' tents and one soldier's tent, for which they, the said Commissioners are to be accountable.

Council having considered the resolution of the General Assembly of the twenty-fifth instant, it was

Ordered, That the Commissioners be requested to procure immediately the undermentioned articles, but if the sum of three thousand three hundred and seventy-five pounds will not be sufficient to purchase the whole, that then they be desired to reduce the quantity or number of such of the articles as they shall think fit.

20½ casks of gun powder.
1 tonn of barr lead.
2 groce of thimbles.
2 do., jews harps.
50 dozen white ruffled shirts.
5 do. laced hats.
50 do. knives.
10 do. hatchets.
10 do. pipe tomahawks.
12 do. looking glasses.
2 M awl blades.
5 M needles.
1 C Vermillion.
50 rifles.
60 M wampum—30 white, 30 black.
12 dozen silver arm bands.
12 do. wrist bands.
20 dozen pipes, Moravian.
20 do. callicoe shirts.
1 hogshead of tobacco.
500 lb. of brass kettles in nests, compleat.
100 lb. of small white beads.
2 groce of morrice bells.

5	dozen of pieces of yellow, green and purple ribbon.
5	pieces of embossed flannel.
60	dozen broaches.
2	do. gorgets.
12	do. nosebobs.
12	do. hair pipes.
12	do. rings.
6	pieces scarlet broad cloth.
100	lb. of brass wire.
20	dozen silk handkerchiefs.
2	do. pieces of callicoe.
4	dozen of saddles and bridles.
1,000	flints, or 1 keg.
1	groce sheers.
1	do. scissars.
1	do. horn combs.
1	do. ivory do.
50	lb. of thread sorted.
12	groce scarlet and star gartering.
12	do. green and yellow bedlace.
3	hogsheads of rum.
30	p's best London stroud.
30	do. French match coats.
10	do. blankets.
20	do. half thicks, purple and white nap.

Ordered, That a warrant be issued to the Treasurer for the sum of three thousand three hundred and seventy-five pounds specie, in favor of the Commissioners appointed to negotiate a purchase from the Indians claiming the unpurchased territory within the limits of this State, to be applied to the purchase of the articles above enumerated, in pursuance of the resolutions of the General Assembly of the twenty-fifth inst.

Ordered, That a warrant issue to the Treasurer in favor of the said Commissioners for the sum of four hundred pounds, in part of the sum of one thousand pounds towards defraying the expences of the said Commissioners in pursuance of the resolutions aforesaid.

Ordered, That the said Commissioners be authorized to employ Messengers, Interpreters and such other persons as they may find necessary in the execution of their commission, and to agree with and pay such persons, rendering an account to this Board.

Kanonwarohare August 6th 1784

My dear friend

Since there is no particular person is appoint'd at Niagara at the present time for the Indian affairs I take the liberty to acquaint you of what happen since I left Niagara, at the first place, we mett Peter Ryk-man between Onondaga & Canaghsioraga with a letter from Governor Clinton from Albany which you will see the contents of it. Coppy. At Oaniy 14th Aug 84

Sir Mr. Glen has delivered me your letter of the 2d it was my Intention to have advised you, by the runners who should have announced that the Six nation were on the way down, that I had agreed to hold the treaty at Fort Schuyler agreable to your wish. In Expectation that the six nations would have commenced their Journey long before now, I came to this city about a month ago & shall re-main here until I hear that you are on the the way down (which I wish may be as soon as possible) & immediately thereupon I shall proceed to Fort Schuyler. you will observe by my letter of the 12 april last that the Board of Commissioners in which I preside, were appoint'd on the part of this State to adjust the subsisting differences between the Six nation, their immediate brethren, & the People of this State. I have however agreable to your requ informed the commissioners (appoint'd by Congress), to represent this & the other united States in a general treaty with all Indians possessing the territory not comprehended by any particular State; that deputies from other nations will accompany you to the prosed treaty. It is not at present in my power to determine, as I have not yet received any answer from them. It is however indispensibly necessary, in order to prevent future occasion of discord & to cement the friendships which formerly subsisted between us that the treaty prosed on the part of this State, should in the first ~~[illegible]~~ Instance, be prosecuted without delay, even if Commissioners from Congress should not attend. I am your most obed. Servt, Signed Geo, Clinton — this letter was directed to me to be communicated to the Indians of five six nations & we took upon ourselves to Stopt Peter Ryckman & this letter until we should have answer of our last letter to Mr Glen of our partys business, our letter to Glen was two days before us, when we came to this place, was the 22d, inst. We this day received a letter from Governor Clinton an answer to our last letter as the above mentiond, Copy Albany 25th August 1784

Sir your letter to Mr Glen of the 11th instant was received by me yesterday and agreable to your request I now inform you that I shall set out from this place with the commissioners appointed on behalf of this State to treat with the Six nation on the 27th, Instant & immediately proceed to Fort Schuyler, where I hope to meet you if the whether proves favorable in five days there after at furthest. — The long time I have already been detaind here on this business makes me anxious to bring it to as speedy a close as possible, it shall therefore not meet with the least possible delay on my part. I am Sir

your most obt, Servant

Signd, Geo Clinton.

Sir you see the N york State alone will have the council with us at last after all. We shall now oblige to attend ourselves of this council & shall do the best we can, if it was all the 13 States at ~~with~~ this council it would be too hard for us to answer I mean our party at present Since there is only one State we think we shall be able to answer them everything which concerns the six nation. & we call upon all the chiefs to attend with one State

I should be Much obliged to you if you would be
so kind as to get a copy of them two letters from Clinton
and send it to Major Mathews to Quebec & let him know
the manner we shall oblige to go on with the mericans
and likewise please to let Colo. De Pyster know it.
there is no news from the states, worth any notice.
no signs of taken possession of the upper posts. the
Oniedes here are pretty good, they are continuely
Drunk with drinking rum. I belive I shall
be able to get a few head of cattle when I leave
this place. we shall set out this day for Fort Stanwix
in five days I hope I shall be able to send another
runner and you shall know more the particulars
of Governor Clintons affairs please to remember me
to Mr. Jones. I hope he is very well Sir I am
your most Humble Servt. & friend

Jos. Brant

I wrote this in great hurry

Capt. Fraser

To

Capt.n Fraser 34.th Regt.

at

Artsgearakes Niagara

BRITISH MUSEUM

1780
From
Captn: Brant to
Captn: Fraser
30th Augt:

The Law of 1780 Ceding certain grants of this Land to the United States, with the cession made by the Delegate's Letter to Henry Glen, Esqr dated this day forwarded.

The following Letter was drafted and agreed to & dispatched.*

Genl. Gansevoort & Mr. Gerardus Lansing were named & associated with the Commissioners.

General Schuyler, Judge Yates & Mr. Visscher appointed a Committee to Draft a speech to the Indians on opening the Treaty agreeable to the Instructions to the Commissioners &c. & report the same at the next Meeting.

The Commissioners then adjourned to meet To morrow Evening at Six o'Clock at the same Place.

[No. 5486.]

Henry Glen Notifies Governor Clinton that Arrangements for Proceeding to Fort Schuyler Have Been Made and He Invites the Governor to be His Guest at Schenectady.

Schenectady, 26th August, 1784.

Sir. Yours of last Evening with letters for Captain Brandt & Mr. Dean Came Save. I have Early this Morning Dispatched an Express to Fort Schuyler, with the two letters. But Since the Express has Gone I Received by Chance opertunety, the Inclosed letter† of Mr. Ryckman from Fort Schuyler. I have made the necessary arangments for our Departer from Hence on Saturday morning & the different stations Between this & Fort Herkermer will be a war of our Coming. I have made out a

rout for our Journey. I shall be happy If your Excellency will take a Bed at my House to morrow night.

---

*See document 5484, page 343.

†See document 5482, page 341.

I am with due Regard, your Excellencies Most Obied. Humble Ser't.

Henry Glen.

To His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr. &c &c &c.

[No. 5487.]

Governor Clinton Requests James Deane to Meet Him at Fort Schuyler.

Fort Schuyler, 30th Augt., 1784.

Sir, I arrived at this Place this Evening and I shall be happy to see you here Tomorow as early as you can make it convenient. Capt. Brant would also wish to see you here as he is informed that you are entrusted by the Commissioners of the United States to make certain Communications to the Hostile Indian Nations, which he Expresses a Desire of conversing with one to assist in giving them Despatch.

I am, Sir, Your Most Obedt. Sert.

Mr. James Deane.

[No. 5488.]

James Deane Explains to Governor Clinton His Reasons for not Arriving Sooner at Fort Schuyler.

Kanonwarohare, Augst. 30th, 1784.

Sir, I have had the Honor to receive Two Letters from Your Excellency on the subject of the Indian Treaty, previous to the One of this date. In Consequence of the first by Mr. Ryckman, I made a journey to Fort Schuyler, on receiving Information of Your Arrival at that place, which proved premature. On the

Receipt of the other dated the 25th Inst. I immediately set out from my Habation on the Wood-Creek to wait on Your Excellency, but was met on the way by Dispatches from the Commissioners of Congress, which prevent my having the Honor to attend you, & lay me under the necessity of seting out for the Country of the Six Nations as expeditiously as possible. I have communicated Capt. Brandts Letter to the Oneidas. In Answer to which, they propose Capt. Brand's sending a Runner who may over take me on the Road, & beg the proposal may be communicated thro' the Channel of your Excellency.

I am, Sir, with Sentiments of profound Respect Your Excellency's most obed't humble Servant,

James Deane.

His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr.

[No. 5489.]

Jellis Fonda to Governor Clinton as to Rev. Mr. Kirkland Advising the Oneidas Not to Exchange Any of Their Lands for Other Lands.

Fort Schuyler, 31st Agst., 1784.

Honored Sir, I Beleve I have found out the Rev't. Mr. Cortland's [Kirkland] hurry and Buseness he is afther. It is for Put the Oneida Indians & on there Gard, not for Exchange there Lands to you nor no other Person, for any other Lands; this is all I have Lerned as yet. I think this my Duty to inform you; and will always if I here anything worth wile let you know.

I am, Sir, Your most obedient Humble Serv't.

Jelles Fonda.

He has Sum thime ago Sent a message Capt. Joseph Brant, Sumthing of the Same Purport as this.

J. F.

[No. 5490.]

THE COUNCIL AT FORT SCHUYLER.

Minutes of the Proceedings between the Commissioners Representing the State of New York and the Six Nations.

At a Meeting of the Commissioners for Indian Affairs—Fort Schuyler, 31st August, 1784.

Present

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

Abraham Cuyler
Henry Glen } Commissioners
Peter Schuyler

Judge Yates
Judge Ten Broeck
Mr. Ab. Yates Jun.
Mr. Peter W. Yates } Associates
Mr. Mat Visscher
Mr. Mayer
Genl. Gansevoort

His Excellency the Governor laid before the Commissioners D't of a Letter wrote by him to Mr. James Deane of the 30th August, and Mr. Deane's answer of the same.

Deputies only from the following Nations to wit the Mohawks, Onondagoes, Cayugas and Senecas, attending & this being contrary to the antient & usual Custom. The Commissioners took into Consideration, the Propriety and manner of opening the Treaty, and, thereupon, it was Resolved, That an Introductory speech be prepared, stating Generally the object of the present Treaty, in order to extract from the said Deputies, the Powers wherewith they are Invested, That the Commissioners may be enabled to determine whether such Powers are adequate to the present business.

The Law of 1780 Ceding certain grants of this Land to the United States, with the cession made by the Delegate's Letter to Henry Glen, Esqr dated this day forwarded.

The following Letter was drafted and agreed to & dispatched.*

Genl. Gansevoort & Mr. Gerardus Lansing were named & associated with the Commissioners.

General Schuyler, Judge Yates & Mr. Visscher appointed a Committee to Draft a speech to the Indians on opening the Treaty agreeable to the Instructions to the Commissioners &c. & report the same at the next Meeting.

The Commissioners then adjourned to meet To morrow Evening at Six o'Clock at the same Place.

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rout for our Journey. I shall be happy If your Excellency will take a Bed at my House to morrow night.

---

*See document 5484, page 343.

†See document 5482, page 341.

I am with due Regard, your Excellencies Most Obied. Humble Ser't.

Henry Glen.

To His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr. &c &c &c.

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Fort Schuyler, 30th Augt., 1784.

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I am, Sir, Your Most Obedt. Sert.

Mr. James Deane.

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Kanonwarohare, Augst. 30th, 1784.

Sir, I have had the Honor to receive Two Letters from Your Excellency on the subject of the Indian Treaty, previous to the One of this date. In Consequence of the first by Mr. Ryckman, I made a journey to Fort Schuyler, on receiving Information of Your Arrival at that place, which proved premature. On the

Kanonwarohare Augt. 30th 1784 (151)

— My Dear friend,

Since their is no particular person appointed at Niagara at the present time for the Indian Affairs, I take the liberty to acquaint you of what has happened since I left Niagara, in the first place we met Peter Ryckman between Onondaga and Canawsarago with a Letter from Governor Clinton from Albany which you will see the Contents &c. — "Copy" — Albany 14th. August 1784 —

" Sir,

. Mr. Glen has delivered me your Letter of the 2d Inst. it was my intention
" to have advised you by the runners, who should have announced that the Six Nation
" were on their way down; that I had agreed to hold the Treaty at Fort Schuyler
" agreable to your wish; In Expectation that the Six Nation would have commenced
" their journey long before now; I came to this City about a month ago & shall remain
" here untill I hear that you are on the way down (which I wish may be as soon
" possible) and immediately thereupon I shall proceed to Fort Schuyler — You will
" Observe by my Letter of the 12th. April last, that the Board of Commissioners in whi
" I preside, were appointed on the part of this State to adjust the subsisting dif
" between the Six Nation their immediate Brethren and the people of this State — I hav
" however agreable to your request informed the Commissioners (appointed by Congress
" to represent this & the other United States in a General Treaty with all Indians
" possessing the Territory, not comprehended by any particular State) that Deputies
" from other Nations will accompany you to the proposed Treaty, it is not at present
" in my power to determine, as I have not yet received any Answer from them;

" It is however indispensibly necessary, in order to prevent future occasion of Discord,
" & to Cement the friendships which formerly subsisted between us, that the Treaty
" proposed on the part of this State, should in the first instance be prosecuted without
" Delay, even if Commissioners from Congress should not attend —

I am your most Obedt. & Servt.

(Sign'd) Geo: Clinton

This Letter was directed to me to be communicated to the Indians of the Six Nations, we took upon ourselves to Stop Peter Ryckman & this letter untill we should have an Answer to our last letter to Mr. Glen of our parties business, our Letter to Glen was to days before us, when we came to this place was the 22d. Inst. — We this day received a Letter from Governor Clinton in answer to our last letter as the abovementioned. —

" Copy

Albany 25th Augt. 1784

Sir,

" Your Letter to Mr. Glen was received by me yesterday agreable to
" request. I now inform you that I shall set out from this place with the Commissioners
" appointed on behalf of this State to treat with the Six Nation on the 27th. instt. and imme-
" diately proceed to Fort Schuyler, where I hope to meet you if the wheather proves favarable
" in five days time after this at furthest — The long time I have already been detained
" here on this Business makes me anxious to bring it to as speedy a Close as possible
" it shall therefore not meet with the least possible Delay on my part

I am Sir

Your most Obedt. Servt.

(Sign'd) Geo: Clinton

Sir you see the N York State alone will have the Council with us at last after all, we shall now oblige to attend ourselves of this Council and shall do the best we can if it was all the 13 States at this Council it would be too hard for us to answer I mean one party at present, since their is only one State we think we shall be able to answer them every thing which concerns the Six Nation and no occasion for all the Chiefs to attend with one State — I should be much obliged to you if you would be so kind as to get a Copy of these two letters from Clinton and send them to Majr. Mathews to Quebec and let him knows the manner we shall be obliged to go on with the Americans — Likewise please to let Colł. De Peyster see it — their is no News from the States worth any notice, no signs of taking possession of the Upper Posts; the Oneidas here are pretty good they are continually Drunk with Stinking Rum — I believe I shall be able to get a few head of Cattle when I leave this place, we shall set out this Day for Fort Stanwix in five days I hope I shall be able to send another runner and you shall no more of the particulars of Clinton's affairs, please to remember me to Mr. Jones, I hope he is very well

Sir I am

Your most Hble Servt. and freind

(Signed) Jos. Brant

I wrote this in a great hurry —

To Captn. Fraser

(154)

Copy

of a Letter from Captn. Brant to Captn. Fraser dated at Thanenwarha the 30th Augt. 1784 inclosing Copies of two Letters from Govr. Clinton —

Receipt of the other dated the 25th Inst. I immediately set out from my Habation on the Wood-Creek to wait on Your Excellency, but was met on the way by Dispatches from the Commissioners of Congress, which prevent my having the Honor to attend you, & lay me under the necessity of seting out for the Country of the Six Nations as expeditiously as possible. I have communicated Capt. Brandts Letter to the Oneidas. In Answer to which, they propose Capt. Brand's sending a Runner who may over take me on the Road, & beg the proposal may be communicated thro' the Channel of your Excellency.

I am, Sir, with Sentiments of profound Respect Your Excellency's most obed't humble Servant,

James Deane.

His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr.

[No. 5189.]

Jellis Fonda to Governor Clinton as to Rev. Mr. Kirkland Advising the Oneidas Not to Exchange Any of Their Lands for Other Lands.

Fort Schuyler, 31st Agst., 1784.

Honored Sir, I Beleve I have found out the Rev't. Mr. Cortland's [Kirkland] hurry and Buseness he is afther. It is for Put the Oneida Indians & on there Gard, not for Exchange there Lands to you nor no other Person, for any other Lands; this is all I have Lerned as yet. I think this my Duty to inform you; and will always if I here anything worth wile let you know.

I am, Sir, Your most obedient Humble Serv't.

Jelles Fonda.

He has Sum thime ago Sent a message Capt. Joseph Brant, Sumthing of the Same Purport as this.

J. F.

[No. 5490.]

THE COUNCIL AT FORT SCHUYLER.

Minutes of the Proceedings between the Commissioners Representing the State of New York and the Six Nations.

At a Meeting of the Commissioners for Indian Affairs—Fort Schuyler, 31st August, 1784.

Present

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

Abraham Cuyler	Commissioners
Henry Glen	
Peter Schuyler	
Judge Yates	Associates
Judge Ten Broeck	
Mr. Ab. Yates Jun.	
Mr. Peter W. Yates	
Mr. Mat Visscher	
Mr. Mayer	
Genl. Gansevoort	

His Excellency the Governor laid before the Commissioners D't of a Letter wrote by him to Mr. James Deane of the 30th August, and Mr. Deane's answer of the same.

Deputies only from the following Nations to wit the Mohawks, Onondagoes, Cayugas and Senecas, attending & this being contrary to the antient & usual Custom. The Commissioners took into Consideration, the Propriety and manner of opening the Treaty, and, thereupon, it was Resolved, That an Introductory speech be prepared, stating Generally the object of the present Treaty, in order to extract from the said Deputies, the Powers wherewith they are Invested, That the Commissioners may be enabled to determine whether such Powers are adequate to the present business.

Receipt of the other dated the 25th Inst. I immediately set out from my Habation on the Wood-Creek to wait on Your Excellency, but was met on the way by Dispatches from the Commissioners of Congress, which prevent my having the Honor to attend you, & lay me under the necessity of seting out for the Country of the Six Nations as expeditiously as possible. I have communicated Capt. Brandts Letter to the Oneidas. In Answer to which, they propose Capt. Brand's sending a Runner who may over take me on the Road, & beg the proposal may be communicated thro' the Channel of your Excellency.

I am, Sir, with Sentiments of profound Respect Your Excellency's most obed't humble Servant,

James Deane.

His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr.

[No. 5489.]

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Fort Schuyler, 31st Agst., 1784.

Honored Sir, I Beleve I have found out the Rev't. Mr. Cortland's [Kirkland] hurry and Buseness he is afther. It is for Put the Oneida Indians & on there Gard, not for Exchange there Lands to you nor no other Person, for any other Lands; this is all I have Lerned as yet. I think this my Duty to inform you; and will always if I here anything worth wile let you know.

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Judge Yates
Judge Ten Broeck
Mr. Ab. Yates Jun.
Mr. Peter W. Yates } Associates
Mr. Mat Visscher
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THE SESSION OF 1 SEPTEMBER.

At a meeting of the Commissioners for Indian Affairs—Fort Schuyler 1st Sept., 1784.

Present

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

Abraham Cuyler,
Henry Glen, Esqrs. Commissioners
Peter Schuyler,

Judge Yates,
Judge Ten Broeck,
General Gansevoort,
Abraham Yates, Junr. Esqr. Associates
Peter W. Yates, Esqr.
John Ja. Beeckman, Esqr.
Mat: Visscher,

Judge Yates, Judge Ten Broeck, Ab. Yates, Junr. Esqr., Peter W. Yates & Mat: Visscher appointed a Committee to prepare the Introductory speech.

Take in Resolution of yesterday to the Oneydas and Tuscaroras.

It being suggested to this Board that some uneasiness and Jealousy prevails among the Onydas and Tuscaroras occasioned by the private artifice of designing Persons who have endeavoured to persuade them into a Belief that this State have it in Contemplation to deprive them of their Lands by Reason whereof this Board apprehend that none of the Sachems or Chiefs of the said Indians have as yet appeared to attend the present Treaty, Therefore, it is resolved, that Major P. Schuyler one of the Members of this Board accompanied by Colo. Wemple & Major Frees be requested immediately to repair to the Oneyda Village & invite the said Indians to attend the Intended Treaty to Morrow as early as possible, and at the same time to assure them of the friendly disposition & Attachment of this State towards them, as we consider them as our Friends and Brethren and whose Exertions with us in the late war have contributed to the Establishment of our Independence.

SESSION OF 2 SEPTEMBER.

At a meeting of the Commiss'rs. Fort Schuyler 2 Sept., 1784.

Present:

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

Ab. Cuyler
Henry Glen } Esqr. Commiss'r
Peter Schuyler
Judge Yates,
Ab. Yates, Junr.
John Ja. Beeckman,
Jacob G. Klock,
Chris'r P. Yates,
Mat: Visscher,
Peter W. Yates
Judge Ten Broeck

The Committee appointed to prepare an Introductery Speech to the Deputies of the Mohawk, Onondaga, Cayuga and Seneca Nations, Reported a D't thereof which being read and amended was agreed to.

Resolved That the same Committee prepare a Speech to the Oneyda & Tuscarora Nation.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Speech to the Oneyda and Tuscarora Nations Reported the same which being read was amended and agreed to.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF SEPTEMBER 4, 1784.

At a meeting of the Commissioners of the Indian Affairs for the State of New York, 4th Sept., 1784.

Present:

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

Ab. Cuyler, Esq.	Commissioners
Peter Schuyler, Esq.	
Henry Glen, Esqr.	
Robert Yates, Esqr.	Associates
Ab. Ten Broeck, Esqr.	
Ab. Yates, Junr. Esqr.	
Peter W. Yates, Esqr.	
John Ja. Beeckman, Esqr.	
Mat: Visscher, Esqr.	
Jacob G. Klock, Esqr.	

Genl. Gansevoort
Mr. Kirkland,
Mr. Peter Ryckman, Interpretor
Jacob Reed, Interpretor
Major Fonda,
Major Frey,
Coll. Van Dyck,
Mr. John Livingston,
Coll'l. Wemple,
Coll'l. Munro.
Mr. Morris,

The Oneyda and Tuscarora Nations being assembled among whom were the following Chiefs & Warriors to wit

Sachems

Peter, or Tsistarare
Cornelius, or Otatshete
Peter, or A tyatonneatha
Wm., or Dyoghagweate
Wm., or Ayeaghwatha
John, or teyekanatsiajere

Chief Warriors

Lieut. Colo. Louis or Atyatoghharongevia
Capt. George or Thonwaghweakavagevea
Cornelius, or itghnejonkeu
Paulus, or itnentshomtye
Jacob, Preed, or Atsiaklatye
Jacob, or Black Smith
Anthony, or shononghrigo
John, or terghhathaghtous
Lodowick, or Asharago
Wm., or hagentarongwea

It was conceived proper by the Commissioners and the said Nations "to send for the Deputies of the other four Nations that they might hear what the Commissioners had to say & Those Deputies attending and being seated, His Excellency the Governor delivered to the said two Nations the following speech:

"Brethren Sachems and Warriors of the Oneyda and Tuscarora Nations.

"We bid you welcome and are very glad to see you and by this

String we wish your Eyes console your Breast & open your Ears that you may hear what we have to say."

A String.

"Brethren. At the conclusion of the late War with Great Britain which terminated in a glorious Peace, the Legislature of this State thought it right to re-establish the antient harmony and friendship which had so long subsisted between this State and the Six Nations residing within its Limits, and which has been interrupted by the part which some of the Six Nations had taken against us. For this and other purposes we are authorized by a Law of this State to treat with them.

"Brethren. The part you have taken we remember with gratitude; We have no differences to adjust with you. We look on you as Brethren who have often in the Hour of danger given indubitable proofs of your inviolable attachment to us and of your determination of living and dying with us.

"Brethren, we have been informed that some designing Persons have endeavoured to persuade you that we mean to take away your Lands. This is not true. You must not believe it. We have no Claim on your Lands; its just extent will ever remain secured to you. It is, therefore, the object of our present meeting to have the metes & bounds thereof, precisely ascertained in all its Parts, in order to prevent any Intrusions thereupon.

"Brethren, To convince you that we have been equally mindful of your Interest as of our own & which we consider as inseperable, the Convention of this State in order to preserve the Amity and Friendship which has always subsisted between us, and to prevent the discontents and Animosities that might arise from frauds in Contracts made for your Lands by Individuals, not sanctioned by the Legislature in forming the Constitution of this Government, did ordain and declare, that no purchases or Contracts for the Sale of Lands made since the Year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, or which thereafter might be made with or of the Indians within this State, should be binding on the said Indians or deemed valid, unless made under the Authority of the Legislature of this State and in all our subsequent transactions we have been equally attentive to the preservation of your Property.

"Brethren, We wish a continuance of that friendship which has so long subsisted between us. And if at any time you should be disposed to sell any of your Lands in that Case (in order to prevent the frauds which may be practised towards you) we do expect and recommend to you earnestly as Brothers and Guardians of your Rights to observe the good old Rule not to make any such Contracts or Sales unless it be done under the Authority and with the consent of the Government of this State, without which no purchaser of your Lands can by Constitution and Laws be vested with a legal Title.

"Brethren, When we invited the other four Nations to this Treaty we intended you should be present. We knew (as you lived in the Neighbourhood of this Place) that we could give you an invitation after we were assured that the other Nations would be here. We have now called you and are happy as Brothers to see you at this Council Fire and to give you fresh Assurances of our Friendship and Affection which we do by this."

A Belt.

To which the said two Nations returned following answer:

"Brothers and Brothers of the State of New York: you observed that you expected us at this Council Fire before the Arrival of the six Nations, but it would have been scandalous for us to have been here before them as we had not been invited.

"Brothers by this," taking up the string given to them by the Comrs., "you have beconed us to this Council Fire and opened our Eyes that we might rejoice together. You have also removed the sorrow laid on us by the misfortunes of the War. You have also opened our speech that we might speak, and our Ears that we may hear your Voice. You have cleansed our habitations from all the stains of blood.

REPLY.

"Brothers, the Governor & Commissioners of the State of New York we thank you for your Introductory address; we take for granted our fate & fortune during the late Troubles have been the same. You have now come up, what has been an untrodden path to you for many Years, and this Path which as you have come along, you have seen has been strewed with Blood. We, therefore, in our turn console your Hearts for all your Losses & Sorrows during these troublesome times. We rejoice that you have opened the Path of Peace to this Country. We now open your speech and give a Spring to your Lungs that you may freely speak."

A String.

"Brothers, as we have now finished the smoking of the Pipe of Introduction, and you have spoken to us, In this your speech, you have observed that there have been wicked Persons who have propagated Reports among us as tho' our Territory was in danger and as tho' if our Brothers would wrest it from us. You have said that this was far from your disposition. Was ever such thing known that one Brother would say to another get away from your habitation. We have utterly rejected and disbelieved these Reports.

"Brothers, These evil Reports were mere Reports of the Bird; therefore, we thought it not worth our while to inform you of it, nor has it affected us or will it ever [illegible] to us, for we do not fix on any thing, until we have spoken and Conversed together.

"Brothers, these evil Reports we bury in Oblivion; let no such things create Jealousy in our minds; in this let us both be agreed.

"Brothers, We have said, let this be blotted out, for should this be the Conduct of the Oneydas & Tuscarorars on this their situation it would be strange indeed — and should this be our situation we should become a Reproach to every Nation both far & near. Now Brothers we will come to the subject of our meeting. This is to revive the antiant Friendship which subsisted between your forefathers and ours, That we might continue to practise the same.

"Brothers, You have come to revive this antient friendship and to give us fresh Testimonies of your Regard to us and our Property, and to inform us that our Land is our own, and that you have heretofore taken measures that it should be secured to us; that no individual should come among us to purchase our Lands without your presence, and if they purchased and paid us money, the purchase would be void by the Resolution of the Great Council of the State. You also desire us to acquaint you when ever we should be disposed to sell any of our Lands.

"Brothers, We are glad to hear this, that no individual may purchase from us without your knowledge. This is agreeable to your frequent and repeated Declarations to us; we would inform you that a certain Man called, T'haoughweanjavergan alias Coll'l John Harper, has made proposals to purchase Lands from us south of the Unadilla. We replied it was contrary to the minds of our Brethren the State of New York, and he replied they know it and have sent me for the purpose, and he gave us fifty Dollars as an Earnest to the agreement.

"Brothers, We have now informed you of this; it now lies with you, whether he shall return again on this business.

"Brothers, This is all at present; we intended only to make a short reply.

"Brothers, You have repeatedly & frequently advised us to love and regard our Property and now a fresh convinced of it, As you have loved your Property you have also loved ours, and now Teach us to preserve it.

"Brothers, We thank you for reviving this Resolution, from the beginning of the late War that our Property is safe, and we will follow your advice; do you continue the same.

"Brothers, We again thank you that you have again advised us to keep a good look out that we do not loose our property.

"Brothers, We again thank you, there is nothing in your address which is opposite or unfriendly to our Interest.

"Brothers, We only renew our thanks for your Belt.

"Brothers, There is Another important Message with which you came to us, that is to know our Boundaries.

"Brother, the Govern(or), you shall know what our Territory was previous to the late War.

"Brother, you have a writing and we have another that shows the boundary Line Run before the War, on this Side, I have only one side to describe.

"1. The line of Property reversed and continued from the Canada Creek, 'till it comes to a certain Mountain called Esoiade or Ice Mountain under which Mountain that Canada Creek opposite to old Fort Hendrick Heads, from thence running Westerly to an old Fort which stood on the Creek called Welinenghra Guentere, and which empties into the River St Laurance about twelve Miles below Carleten's or Bucks Island, and which Fort the Oneidas took from their Enemies a long time ago, from thence running Southerly to a Rift upon the Onondaga River, called Agontenayea or Elequegonteneayea (a place remarkable for Eels), about five Miles from where the River empties out of the Oneyda Lake and from thence runs to the Creek called Coghsunto to that part or point of the said Creek which lays about Six Miles East of Onondaga, and when the Water runs over a ledge of Rocks and from thence runs up the said Creek to a Lake out of which it Empties called Anagwola's and from thence to the head of the Oswego River, which heads in a Swamp nearly at the same place where the said Coghsunto River heads, and from thence down the said Oswego River to where it Empties into the Susquehanah.

"Brothers, By this Belt I have shown you Our West Boundary and you have Maps and Papers which will more precisely shew you.

"Brothers, I will take this oppertunity to mention another matter of great Importance that respects the Niskee Tribe. General Washington assured them during their Late Troubles that they should Possess and keep their Lands. It is a pleasant place for us to rest at and refresh ourselves when we are Travelling, and would wish you would confirm it.

"From Canada Creek the Line of Property reversed till it comes to a Mountain called Esoadordee on thence west to Oguntinga a Rist in the Onondaga River about 5 miles from Onida Lake From thence Northerly to an Indian [illegible] called Walaghlagentala, about 12 Miles below Carleton's Island, this

Fort the Oneidas took from their Enemies long Time ago Thence Easterly to a Mountain called Esoad or Ice Mountain & where the Creek called Canada Creek which empties opposite old Fort Hendrick Head.

"Then Beginning at Caquegemawia & runs from thence to the Creek called Coghsunto a Point about Six Miles East of Onondaga, Thence up said Creek to a lake out of which it empties called Anagwolis and from thence to the Head of the Owego which heads nearly at the same Place or Swamp thence down the same till it empties in the Susquehana. Beginning at the Mouth of Oyonawaga Creek or Johnsons Landing supposed 4 Miles W. from Niagara, from thence allways 4 miles East of the carrying place between Lake Erie & Ontario, to the mouth of Buffelo Creek, thence South to the North Boundary of Pensylvania, thence West to the End of the said North Boundary, thence along the West Boundary of the said State to the River Ohio. The above is the Boundary Settled the 25 Oct'r. 1784 between the Continental Commissioners & the Six Nations. There is a Reserve of Six Miles distance in all places from the Garrison of Oswego."

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF COMMISSIONERS AND INDIANS AT FORT SCHUYLER SEPTEMBER 5TH, 6TH AND 7TH.

At a meeting of the Commissioners of Indian affairs for the State of New York 5 Sept'r., 1784:

Present:

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

Abraham Cuyler,
Henry Glen,
Peter Schuyler,
} Esq'rs. Commissioners.

Robert Yates, Esqr.
Ab. Yates, Junr. Esqr.
Peter W. Yates, Esqr.
Ab. Ten Broeck, Esqr.
John Ja. Beeckman, Esqr.
General Gansevoort,
Mat: Visscher, Esqr.
Associates

Coll. Munro,
Coll. Van Dyck,
Major Fonda,
Mr. Morris,
Mr. Kirkland,
Mr. Peter Ryckman, Interpreter,
Coll. Wemple,
Mr. John B. Van Eps,
Mr. John Livingston.

The Deputies from the Mohawks, Onondagoes, Cayuagoes & Senecas to wit:

Attending: the Oneydas & Tuscaroras being sent for, His Excellency the Governor delivered the following speech to the said Deputies.

"Brethren, Sachems and Warriors of the Mohawks, Onondago's, Cayuga's and Senecas.

"With this String we open your Eyes and your Ears that you may hear and fully comprehend [what] we have to say.

"Brothers, The Council Fire which was lighted both at Albany and Onondago by our Ancestors & those of the Six Nations, and which burnt so bright and shone with so friendly a light over our Common Country, has unhappily been almost extinguished by the late War with Great Britain.

"I now gather together, at this place, the remaining brands, add fresh fuel, and with the true Spirit of reconciliation and returning friendship, rekindle the Fire, in hopes that no future events may ever arise, to extinguish it; but that you and we, and the offspring of us both; may enjoy its benign influence as long as the Sun shall shine or the Waters flow.

"Brethren! The Paths which lead to and from our respective habitations, have already been opened, and every obstacle removed: we have, therefore, now the satisfaction of taking each other by the Hand, as Brethren residing within the same State, and congratulate you on your Arrival at this Meeting expressly called for the purpose of setting those differences and Animosities which have arisen between us by reason of your Conduct during the late War; to establish Boundary Lines between you & us on such just & equitable Terms as will be satisfactory & prevent all future Animosities; to promote Trade and Commerce, and renew that former friendship and Compact antiently made between the Six Nations and our Dutch Ancestors, and afterwards frequently renewed by the late Colony now State of New York. These Things we conceive to be of great Importance especially, as We are now become a free and Independent State, and so acknowledged by Great Britain and other foreign Nations. It, therefore, behoves you and us, to have them speedily determined as essentially necessary to advance & promote our mutual Interest and happiness in token whereof we present with this"

A Belt.

"Brethren, We wish that a Treaty to bring about such salutary and important purposes may be conducted with a true spirit Friendship and reconciliation.

"Brethren, We hope that you will not suffer yourselves to be led astray or deceived by Persons, who under specious pretexts, or from motives of private Interest will pretend to be your Advocates and Friends; Offer you their Council and advice; but at the same time will throw in the way all the difficulties and embarrassments in their Power.

"Brethren, We recommend you to embrace the present opportunity; if this be lost or neglected some unavoidable Accident or unforeseen event may render a future one precarious and possibly less favorable to your Interest.

"Brethren, The Right and Power of managing all affairs with the Indians, not Members of any of the States, are vested in Congress, who have as we are informed appointed Commissioners for the purpose; We are appointed by a Law of the Legislature of this State to superintend Indian affairs within the same, by virtue of which we are authorized and required to enter into Compacts and Agreements with any Indians residing within this State; It is in consequence of this Law and these Powers that we appear now to treat with you our Brethren in our present Differences are adjusted we are inclined to live as heretofore on Terms of the most sincere Friendship. In Testimony whereof we give you this Belt.

"Brethren, By your Letter of the 11th day of August last which we received from Capt. Brant, you inform us that you are sent by the Six Nations, and the several Nations in Alliance with you to settle some Points necessary to be arranged previous to a more general meeting. What those Points are, we shall be glad to know. We on our part attend agreeable to the antient Custom in which Treaties have been Conducted between you and us and our Ancestors, but your being thus sent, is out of the antient mode;

we would, therefore, desire to know the reason of this new way of proceeding on a business of this nature, and whether you have sufficient Powers delegated to you on this Occasion, so that when we see that you have competent Powers for the Purposes, we may proceed farther upon the Business."

The Answer:

"Brothers, now you have finished this day at this Council which you have called here, and we have heard what you had to say and fully Comprehend it, we would now observe to you, that it is the Custom of the Six Nations to consult and consider before we answer and wish you to keep an open Ear in expectation to hear what we have to say."

6 SEPT., 1784.

Being rainy and the Deputies not being ready to deliver their answer until to morrow.

7TH SEPT., 1784.

His Excellency the Governor being indisposed.

Present:

Ab. Cuyler, Peter Schuyler, Henry Glen,	Esqrs. Commissioners
Judge Yates, Judge Ten Broeck, Ab. Yates, Junr. Peter W. Yates, Mat: Visscher, Genl. Gansevoort, John Livingston,	Esqrs. Associates.
Coll. Munro,	

Coll. Wemple,

Coll. VanDyck,

Mr. Morris,

Mr. Vaughan,

Mr. Van Eps,

Mr. Kirkland,

Mr. Peter Ryckman, Interpreter

The Commissioners informed the Deputies of the four Nations to wit:

That the Sachems and Warriors of the Oneidas & Tiscaroras were sent for to be present, they soon appeared & seated themselves and thereupon Capt. Abeel a Seneca Chief spoke as follows:

"Brothers, You will acquaint us when you are ready."

And being answered by the Commissioners that they were now ready, Capt. Brant delivered the following answer to the Commissioners Introductory Speech:

"Brothers Attend. We are now assembled at this place where you have called a Council on this day. We are equally with you unhappy at the absence of the Governor, but what shall we say we are not the preserver of our Lives, and, therefore, mutually sympathise with you on Acct. of his illness, and we trust you possess your minds in Peace, and attribute our not speaking yesterday to the badness of the Wheather.

"Now Brothers Attend: When you spoke to us and addressed us as four Nations, Mohawks &c., you said with this String 'we open yur Eyes and your Ears that we might comprehend what you had to say.' We thank you Brothers for this Introductory Address; we comply with your request, We, therefore, now in our turn brighten up your Eyes and Understanding that you may hear what we have to say.

"Brothers, In your speech to us, you observed that the Council Fire which was long ago kindled by our Ancestors at Albany and Onondago and which burnt bright and shone with a friendly light over this Country, has been almost extinguished by the late War with the King of Great Britain.

"Brothers, It is true; it is fresh in our minds. We remember the happy days that our Ancesters enjoyed.

"Again you said that you gathered the remaining brands and rekindled the Fire, that the antient friendship might revive, and that our offspring mutually might enjoy its Interest and benign influence.

"Brothers, We thank you for this; it exactly meets our disposition and feelings of our minds. We, therefore, by this String confirm your declarations; thus Brethren we receive and confirm because our Voice will be heard to all our Brethren to the Westward, for which Reason we trust it will remain sure. Again you said that as the Path which led to our respective habitations was again spread we had the Hand as Brothers.

"Brothers, That is true what you have said; we are surrounded with Evidences of your friendly dispositions, for we are happy while we are here at this Council Fire, and the design of meeting at this Council Fire was for the purpose of settling those differences & animosities, which had arisen between us during the late War, occasioned by our Conduct, as well as yours. You farther said, that your purpose was to settle boundary Lines between you and us on such equitable Terms as will give mutual satisfaction. This Brothers meets with our entire approbation for surely we have a Love for our Country. It is our wish that this matter may be now attended to and accomplished to our mutual satisfaction. This seems necessary to be fixed for then a free &

generous Trade will be carried thro' our Country. This will revive the antient friendship which subsisted between the Six Nations and your Dutch Ancestors. Again, you observed that this was a matter of great Importance, especially as you had become a free & Independent State & so acknowledged by Great Britain & other foreign States. This Brothers we know and are fully sensible that you are a free and Independent State and, therefore, wish to reestablish friendship & Peace between us, and as a token that we receive your speech and confirm it we give you this Belt." Belt of seven Rows with three Blocks. "And as a further Testimony of our approbation of your rekindling this Council Fire, we present you with this Pipe of Peace, there to remain as a token of Peace from us, agreeable to the Custom of our Ancestors.

"Brothers, You again spoke and expressed your Wish that this Treaty which was to bring about important matters might be conducted with a spirit of sincere Friendship. This is our disposition. We mean in every respect to Conduct accordingly.

"You again spoke and warned us not to be led astray by evil minded Persons.

"Brothers, we thank you for this advice & Warning. We take it for granted that you know we are exposed to deception otherwise you would not have warned us. This we shall observe we will be on our guard, and we suppose it is necessary as our Lands will be object of Jealousy.

"Brothers, You again spoke & recommended to us to embrace the present oppertunity lest it should be lost by negligence. This we embrace, for this very purpose came we to this place—because we are left to Treat for ourselves and have a free and Independent power for that purpose.

"Brothers, You again spoke and made us acquainted that the Powers managing Indian affairs at large belonged to Congress and that they had appointed Commissioners for this purpose, and that you were appointed by this particular state, to manage Indian affairs with Indians residing within the bounds thereof. In consequence of which you appear here at this place. Here lies some difficulty in our Minds that there should be two separate Bodies to manage these affairs for this does not agree with our antient Customs. This was the reason why we made such a reply, when your Messenger Mr. Ryckman came to our Country. It was the voice of our Chiefs and their Confederates that we should first meet Commissioners of the whole 13 States, and after that, if any matters should remain between us and any particular State that we should then attend to them. At the same time we are fully determined notwithstanding all this to make a final settlement with you and do all we can for that purpose & to confirm the truth of our Words we give you this Belt." A Belt of seven Rows & ten blocks.

"Brothers, You again spoke mentioning the Letter you recd. of 11 August last from Capt. Brant by which we informed you that we were sent by the six Nations and their Confederates to settle some Points necessary to be arranged previous to a more General meeting. What those Points were you desired us to let you know—for you on your part now attended, according to antient Custom between your Ancestors and ours, and that the mode or manner of our coming was not according to antient Custom, and desired us also to let you know the reason of this, and also desired us to inform you whether we had sufficient powers for the purposes mentioned in your Speech. We now reply and fully explain to you the manner and mode of our coming down.

"In the first place we assign this reason: when your Messenger Mr. Ryckman came to us with your Message in our Answer, we told him we should first send to our Confederates and as soon as we had a return from them, you should hear from us, and we also then requested to hear from you in answer to what we sent by him; A second Reason we assign is this—you appointed the German Flats for the place of the Council Fire; in our Reply we requested that it might be at Fort Stanwix, and that the Commissioners from Congress might be acquainted therewith and be there, that we might have the voice of the whole. When your Messenger left us we enjoined it on him to let us have an answer on these two Points. On our part as soon as we had an answer from our Confederates we informed you, and we were then in constant expectation to hear from you. At this time came Chiefs from four Nations of our Confederates, and they then told us that Sachems of two other Nations were yet behind and were daily expected. Upon our informing them of the place of meeting which was this very place they refused coming down so far, and said that Niagara was the most Central place for meeting, and that it was their antient place of meeting & Because they would not agree to come down, is the Reason why we did not send a Runner as we had promised, and as we had not received an Account from you of the Alteration in the place of meeting. We are sent by our Nations in the manner we now appear to Treat with you and have powers for that purpose. Had your last Message come in Time, the whole of our Nations would have been here; and in Testimony that we have powers to Treat with you we present you with this String, four strings, and wish you would let us know what you have father to say to us."

ROUGH MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF SEPTEMBER 10, 1784.

At a meeting of the Commissioners of Indian affairs for the State of New York, Fort Schuyler, 10th September, 1784.

Present
His Excellency Governor Clinton;
Ab. Cuyler,
H. Glen,
P. Schuyler,
Esqrs. Commissioners
Judge Yates,
Judge Ten Broeck,
Ab. Yates, Esqr.,
John Ja. Beeckman,
Mat: Visscher,
Coll. Wemple,
Mr. Morris,
Mr. Vaughan,
Mr. Ryckman &
Jacob Reed
Interpreters.
The Chiefs of the Oneyda & Tuscarora Nations.
Grasshopper,
Peter,
John Jurry,
Capt. Ried,
The Deputies of the Mohawks, Onondagas, Cayugas & Senecas viz:

Mohawks	Capt. David Hill, Karonghuotye
	Capt. Jos. Brant, Thayendanegea
Onondagoes	Kashightoghare,
	Hatheghserarin,

Cayugas	Oghniogueenton,
	Karonghyageten,
Senecas	Kagentwaghgegh or Capt. Abeel,
	Thweatanin,
Oghgwagas	Atoghsenonge
or Oneidas	Kanaweadon
Tuscaroras	JoghahiPen

War Cheifs.

attending and being asked whether they were ready to receive our Reply and having answered they were and the Chiefs & sachems of the Oneidas & Tuscaror being also present, His Excellency the Governor delivered them the following speech:

"Brothers, We have heard your answer to our introductory speech and considered it attentively. We are happy to find that you correspond in sentiment with us. With respect to the important matters we proposed to you, and that you discover a disposition to adopt just & equitable Measures for reviving and confirming that friendship which formerly subsisted between us, and which was unhappily interrupted by the war with Great Britain, and We receive with satisfaction the assurances you have given to us that you have powers to treat with us upon the different matters necessary to bring about this salutary object.

"Brothers, The Pipe of Peace which, agreeable to the Custom of your Ancestors you have presented to us as a Testimony of your Approbation of rekindling the Council Fire, shall be carefully preserved as solemn Token of the sincerity of your Profession.

"Brothers, In all our Communications with you to effect the proposed meeting, we have endeavoured to be as explicit as possible, so that you might fully comprehend and understand, the

Grounds and principles upon which we meant to treat with you, and the powers under which we acted. And, to remove all difficulty & doubts from your minds on this subject, and as a further evidence of that candor and sincerity which we have recommended to be observed, and which we expect on your part, we have laid before you the Consideration of the United States the Constitution of this State, and the particular law under which we act, that you might see and judge for yourselves before we proceeded farther on the business.

"Brothers, We trust that the difficulties you expressed about different Commissioners, are now fully removed from your minds, and that you are clearly convinced, that we have a proper right to negotiate and settle all the matters between us which are proposed to you. We shall therefore now proceed.

"Brothers, To remove the animosities which have arisen during the late war, we told you it would be necessary to establish Boundary lines between you & us on just and equitable Terms. In doing of which considering our Losses, the Debts we have incurred and our former friendship it is reasonable, that you make to us a cession of Land such a Cession of your Lands as will aid us in repairing & discharging the same.

"Brothers, We will not in the first instance, mention any quantity or discribe any particular Tract. This can be better done, hereafter when we are more fully informed of your sentiments on this subject. We would only observe that in the settlement of this business we wish to be governed by Equity & mutual conveniency and that we expect part of the Lands to be ceded will be in the vicinity of Niagara, and Oswego, to accommodate our antient settlements at those places.

"Brothers, This is the Principle point to be adjusted. If this can be satisfactorily accomplished, all differences & animosities will subside & we propose in this Case on our part to extend to you all those assurances for securing you in the possession of your Lands, and to prevent frauds & impositions which might be committed agt. you, which you will find provided for by our Constitution and Laws, and which you have lately heard us give to our Brethren the Oneydas and Tuscaroras, & our People who are in Captivity with you, liberated & returned to their Friends.

"Brothers, We think it proper also to mention to you, that if a settlement should be happily effected & these Assurances be on our Part given to you, that you will on your Part faithfully continue to observe the antient Rule established between us while we were a Colony, and renewed by the Constitution of this state, not to dispose of any of your Lands lying within its Limits, without the Consent and approbation of Our Government, and that you will expressly stipulate, that if at any time hereafter you should dispose of any of your Lands within our Bounds, that in that Case, you will always give us the right of preemption. So that the state by any Act of yours may not be injured in its Rights."

After which Capt. Abeel informed the Com'rs. that according to Custom they would retire & take time to Consider and give an answer; and they having retired—His Excellency the Governor delivered the following Speech to the Oneydas & Tuscrarors:

"Brothers, We are very well satisfyed with your answer to our speech, and for which, we now return you, our thanks.

"You have informed us that Thoughweanjawegen alias John Harper, has made proposals to purchase Lands from you South of the Unadilla, and that he told you that the Council of this State knew it and had sent him for the purpose—upon which you desire our opinion.

"Brothers, what this Man has told you is not true. He has done this without our knowledge, and we have not sent him.

"Brothers, that you may no more be deceived or imposed upon in such Cases, we advise you not to make any Bargain or Agreement for the Sale of any of your Lands, unless those who want to buy do previously obtain and shew you a license from the Government of this State properly authenticated.

"Brothers, you also (agreeable to our request) have mentioned to us the Boundaries of your Lands, and we have accordingly set them down as you described them; you observed that you had one paper and we another that would give the Boundary on one side, this is true;—But the Bounds on the other side are not so well known to us.

"Brothers, We have also observed what you have said relative to the Lands on the Mohawk River now occupied by the Oriskie Indians. These Lands are not comprehended within the Boundaries you mentioned to us, and it is, therefore, probable, they have been heretofore sold to the persons who obtained a patent for them under the late Colony of New York—Should this appear to be the case, and that those persons have honestly paid for them, we have too good an opinion of your honesty & understanding to believe you would wish us to take away their property, and thereby commit an act of injustice—For if we were to do so, how could you ever after trust us yourselves.

"Brothers, We have now fully opened our Minds to each other, and we are happy that your sentiments and ours do so well agree.

"Brothers, We now conclude with the fullest confidence that our Chain of Friendship will not contract any Rust but that it will always remain so bright throughout every part of the State, that our Posterity may see their Faces in it, and that it will be their object as it has been ours to promote each others happyness and as a pledge thereof we now give you this Belt."

The Deputies of the Mohawks &c being returned, and being seated Capt. Abeel spoke and said: "Brothers agreeable to what we said before, we having retired are now ready to make an Answer to your Speech if you are ready to receive it" & on being answered by the Gov'r. that "we were" Capt. Brant arose and spoke as follows to wit:

"Brothers, We have received your Speech and considered it well; and are happy to find that you and we so well agree in sentiment and there is the greatest prospect of settling the differences which have arisen between us.

"Brothers, We are exceeding happy and return you thanks for the candor and explicitness with which you have conducted the business on your part. We have considered the Confederation of the United States, the Constitution of this State and the Law under which you Act, and are fully sensible of your Right as Commissioners of this State in Treating with us, the Six Nations, who live and reside within its Limits.

"Brothers, You have already experienced Candor and explicitness on our part and you may be assured of a continuation of that Candor and explicitness which ought always to be observed in a business of this Nature and especially among Brethren who live and reside in one State.

"Brothers, You have told us that in order to remove the Animosities which have arisen between us during the late War, that Boundary Lines between us should be settled and that in Consideration of your Losses, the Debts you had incurred, and the former friendship which subsisted between you and us, it was reasonable that we should make to you such a Cession of our Lands as would aid you in repairing and discharging the same.

"Brothers, We have already told you that we were ready to settle with your Boundary Lines upon just and equitable Terms, and we now repeat it, and as you have now called upon us to know what Territory we would Cede and as you express a wish to have part of the Lands to be ceded to, lie in the Vicinity of Niagara and Oswego to accommodate your antient settlement at those places.

"Brothers, We now reply that the request you make for Lands for the above purposes in general, and the manner in which you have made it we as Deputies think reasonable. But we must observe to you, that we are sent in order to make peace, and that we are not authorized, to stipulate any particular cession of Lands, we shall however recommend it to our respective Nations and we beleive they will meet your wishes to specify to you, the Lands they are willing to grant to you. This Business we expect the will treat with you about, as soon as the Treaty with the Commissioners of Congress is ended.

"Brothers, You have particularly expressed your wish to have Lands at Niagara and Oswego for the accommodation of your antient settlement at those places. We have formerly ceded some Lands to the Government of the late Colony of New York for the use of the King; this Already belongs to you by the Treaty with Great Britain and as to Oswego, we think it reasonable that you should have Lands there, but as to the Quantity for the reason beforementioned we cannot determine; we will also in respect to this earnestly recommend it to our respective Nations, and we have every reason to suppose it will be granted.

"Brothers, You told us that this was the principle point to be settled between us, and if this could be adjusted and your People in Captivity with us Liberated, all differences and animosities would subside. We have already determined that when a General Peace takes Place (and have sent yesterday to our Nations for that purpose) that all the Prisoners should be Liberated and returned.

"Brothers, You farther informed us that if a settlement should take place and the Assurances on your part given us in all our Lands agreeable to the old Custom, that we would faithfully continue to observe the antient Rule established between you and us while we were a Colony and renewed by your Constitution, not to dispose of any of our Lands lying within your State without your Consent and approbation. This we agree to and assure you that we shall abide by the antient Rule and Custom these were good and we as a People derived our mutual advantage from it.

"In Testimony of the truth of all what we have said, we deliver you this Belt." A Belt of seven Rows and five Blocks.

The Comm'rs by His Excellency the Governor, informed the Indians that they intended to set out early in the morning on their Return home and, therefore, now adjourned the Council Fire. He also mentioned to the Oneydas and Tuscaroras that the Com'rs would give them the provisions which they had on hand which they conceive would be the most acceptable present on their Situation as their lands during the war must have grown over with bushes and be hard to work & might not be capable of drawing the usual supplies from them; and to the Deputies of the other four Nations he mentioned the intention of the Comm'rs to leave them a sufficiency of Provisions for their use until the time fixed for meeting the Com'rs of the United States.

In the course of this day several Caynawaga Chiefs & Warriors & about forty of that tribe arrived having previously sent the Gov'r. a string to announce their approach, and as an Evidence of their friendship, these being present at the delivering of the last two speeches, the Com'rs thro the Governor, informed them that their business at this Council fire was confined to the Six Nations, but that they were happy to see them there; that they considered them now as friends; that such of them as lived in the Village of St. Regis or other parts within the limits of this State, might return to their Habitations, without the least apprehension of Injury, as "we shall have ample provision against any frauds or impositions being committed against any Indians reposing within its limits;" that it would at the same time be expected that they would Religiously observe the good old rule which was renewed by the Constitution of this State, not to dispose or part with any of their lands without the Consent and approbation of this Government.

The Deputies of the four Nations by Cap. Abeel made a speech, returning the Com'rs their thanks for the Candor, Civility and Attention with which they had been treated; as did also the Cagnawagas, promising at the same time to observe what had been enjoined on them by the Comm'rs. It having been agreed by the Com'rs as necessary for the interest of the State to leave Major P. Schuyler one of their board, Mr. P. Ryckman, their Interpreter at this place to attend the treaty proposed to be held by the Com'rs of Congress, the following Instructions for the goverm't of their Conduct was prepared and agreed to:

Instructions for Major Peter Schuyler.

You are to remain at this place and with Mr. Peter Ryckman (Who is to attend you) observe the Conduct of the Commissioners of Congress in their proposed Treaty, and Dayly note them in a Journal. You will attend the publick speeches & meetings to find out the objects they have in View and when you find they have in View & any thing that may Eventually prove Detrimental to the State, you are to use your most undivided influence to Counteract and frustrate.

The Oneidas & Tuscaroris are present 7 Blls. Corn, 3 of Beef, 2 Do Pork, 3 Do of Tobaco, 1 Do of Salt, 2 Head of Cattle, 30 Keggs Rum, 28 Blls. of Flour for which you will take their Receipt. You will then have on hand 2 Blls. Beef, 1 Do Pork, 2 Do Tobaco, 1 Do Salt, 1 Head of Cattle, 6 Blls Rum, 40 Keggs Do, 2 Blls. Corn, 1½ Blls Biscuits, ½ Box Pipes & 12 Blls Flour. You will out of this supply the Deputies from the Four Nations Until the 20th Instant, the day held by the Continental Com'rs for their Treaty, & what ever you can Share from that, use, & your own especially the Rum of which you have a Large Quantity — convert into Cash for the Benefit of the State. You will inform the Oneidas that you have given them all the Provision on hand & that can possibly be spared.

[No. 5495.]

A Return of Stores Received by Wm. Colbreath at Fort Schuyler from Henry Glen, Esquire, One of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs.

N. B. Several Barrells of Flour not full & badly trucked. The Barrells in general very bad. The greatest number of the Bar-

Brethren, Sachems and Warriors of the Mohawks, Onondagas Cayugas & Senecas. with this String we open your Eyes & your Ears and lighten up your understandings that you may clearly & fully Comprehend what we have to say —

Brothers. The Council Fire which was lighted both at Albany and Onondago by our Ancestors and those of the Six Nations, which burnt so bright and shone with so friendly a light over our Common Country, has unhappily been almost extinguished by the late War with Great Britain.

I now gather together, at this place, the remaining brands, add fresh fuel, and with the true spirit of reconciliation and returning friendship, rekindle the fire, in hopes that no future events may ever arise to extinguish it, but that you and we, and the offspring of us both, may enjoy its benign influence as long as the Sun shall shine or the Waters flow —

Brethren, The paths which lead to & from our respective habitations, have already been opened, and every obstacle removed; we have therefore now the satisfaction of taking each other by the hand as Brethren residing within the same State, and Congratulate you on your arrival at this Meeting expressly called for settling those differences and Animosities which have arisen between by reason of your Conduct during the late War. To establish

Boundary Lines between you and us, on such just and equita
Terms as will be satisfactory and prevent all future animositi
To promote Trade & Commerce and renew that former friendship
and Compact antiently made between the Six Nations and
our Dutch ancestors and afterwards frequently renewed
by the late Colony now State of NewYork – These things we
conceive to be of great importance especially as we are now
become a free and Independent State and so acknowledged
by Great Britain & other foreign Nations. It therefore beho
you and us to have them speedily determined as eſsentially
neceſsary to advance and promote our mutual Interest
and happineſs – In token whereof we present you this Belt

Brethren We hope that you will not suffer yourselves to be led
astray or Deceived by Persons who under Specious pretexts,
or from motives of private Interest, will pretend to be your
Advocates and Friends, offer you their Council and Advice
but at the same time will throw in the way all the
difficulties and Embarraſsments in their Power –

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Brethren. We Recommend you to Embrace the present opportunity, lest if this be lost or neglected some unavoidable accident or unforeseen event, may render a future one precarious and poſsibly leſs favorable to your interest —

Brethren. The Right & power of managing all Affairs with the Indians not Members of any of the States, are vested in Congreſs, who have as we are informed, appointed Commiſsioners for the purpose; We are appointed by a Law of the Legislature of this State to Superintend Indian affairs within the same, by Virtue of which we are Authorized and required to enter into Compacts and agreements with any Indians residing within this State; It is in Consequence of this Law and these powers that we appear now to Treat with you our Brethren with whom (when our present differences are adjusted) we are inclined to live as heretofore on Terms of the most Sincere friendship — In Testimony whereof we give you this Belt — — —

Brethren. By your Letter of the 10th Day of August last which we received from Capt. Brant, you inform us that you are sent by the Six Nations, and the several Nations in Alliance with you, to settle some points neceſsary to be arranged previous to a more General Meeting — What tho Points are we shall be Glad to know; We on our part attend agreable to the Antient Custom in which Treaties have been Conducted between you and us, and our Ancestors; but you being thus sent is out of the Antient Mode; we would therefore desire to know the reason of this new way of proceeding on a buſineſs of this nature, and whether you have sufficient Powers delegated to you on this occasion; so that when we see, that you have competent powers for these purposes we may proceed further upon the buſineſs

Speech to the Deputies of the
Mohawks, Onondagas, Cayugas and
Senecas – 5th Sepr. 1784

Dear Genl. Philadelphia Sepr. 3rd 1784

What can you do better than make a party to come to the indian treaty? On the 20th we shall see the princely eyes of the Six Nations at Stanwix; & on the 20th of Novr. those of the Western Indians at the mouth of Cayahoga, or Diahoga, on lake Erie. We understand here that the Indians will not treat with Sir J. Johnson. Distracted as you are between the widow of the Manor & the maid on the Island had you not better withdraw from their vortex, & amuse yourself with the

EMMET COLLECTION.

rian Ladies who will be more kind

Self troublesome.

The animal magnetism of Mesmer

has entirely defeated the Balloons. All

the Ladies are now for being magnetised

but it can be so managed, as to produce very

itical ecstatic evacuations. This

his that has gained Mesmer so

many noble Pupils. I have read

his Book. His promises are

nificent. It is one of the most

[illegible] attempts at imposition

that Ignorance. But it will hav

ion, like others fr

from the credulity of mankind.

There is no summons of those, that

meeting of the Committee of the St

will take place. We must therefore

an ungoverned Union, till Congress m

The constitutionalists have a de

majority in the Council of Censors.

The Marquis de la Fayette arriv

here yesterday. He is going to N. Y

Boston & from thence comes b

breaky. Genl Washington is go

to visit his Ohio Estates, to re

in Sepr. Remember me to all the La

not forgetting Mrs Elsworth & Mrs Harrin

I never saw a Lady who deserved less the har

fate of lying alone, than the latter

Adieu

A. Lee

EMMET COLLECTION.

Mr. Arthur Lee
dated Philadelphia
5th Sepr. 1785. –

Niagara Sepr. 5th 1784

Dear Sir John

Since my last letter to you dated August the 21st Nothing Interesting has happened here. we are in Daily Expectation of accts. from Capt. Brant & party gone to Fort Stanwix, the Deputies from the Western Nations began to be impatient at their long Delay here & wish much to hear what passes at Fort Stanwix. I had a meeting with them some Days Ago in Which they Signified their Disapprobation of the proceedings of the 6 Nations in Sending any Deputation to meet the Americans at Fort Stanwix & tho' invited to Accompany them refused as beneath their Dignity as representatives of the western Confederacy who know no fire place but that of Niagara where whatever relates to public business, should be transacted - they Say the War Ax has not as yet been taken from them & tho at present unemployed they often Look Wishfully at it, & keep it Close to their Sides - in Short they Seem to have great Doubts of the Sincerity of the Colonists - I Satisfied them on my Answer by Assuring them that Capt. Brant & party went to Fort Stanwix not to Arrange any public Business but only with a View to Sound the Dispositions of

Sir John Johnson Bart.

Of the Americans. as their Observations on their Conduct of the Americans at Fort Stanwix, might in some Degree regulate their future proceedings With them — I told them I Approved of their Sentiments in not Demeaning themselves on any occasion, or in not Acting a part in any Degree unworthy the representatives of a powerfull Confederacy & Assured them that in proper time & place the Hatchett would be Buried but in the interim think they Act wisely in not neglecting it. the Various matters to be Adjusted in a General peace Require Much time & Deliberation & that joyned to the tedious Navigation between Europe & America leaves us as Yet uninformed As to particulars Which when we Come to the Knowledge Off Shall lose no time in imparting them.

I am Sorry to inform You that the Inds. at the Different Villages Are Extremely Sickly, a Yellow fever has Already Carried Off Numbers & some principal Chiefs. I have Daily Applications for medicines &c & tho the Disorder is infectious propose when time permits to Visit Buffalo Creek & perhaps the Other near Villages — Several of the Officers are Come in in very bad health among the rest Capt. Powell Lieut. [illegible] & [illegible] &c — Mr. McComb Arrived here in the [illegible] with 14 Batteaux load of Indian presents of Which he has Left for the Use of this post 300 lb. of Gun powder without an ounce of Lead &c. & the Indn. presents are at the Landing on their Way to Fort Schlosser — I Should be much Obliged to you for a Copy of my Acct. as my papers got wet in Coming up & are not legible. what money have I Recd. from You on the public Acct. — Mr. Tinling will give You the News here — Respectl. Respects to Lady Johnson & the Children Col. Claus & family

I am Dr. Sir John Yours John Dease

Brothers Attend. We are now assembled at this place where you have called a Council on this day, we are equally with you unhappy at the absence of the Governor but what shall we say we are not the preservers of our lives & therefore mutually simpathize with you on Account of his illness and we trust you possess your minds in peace & attribute our not speaking yesterday to the Badness of the weather —

Now Brothers attend, When you spoke to us and addressed us as Four Nations Mohocks, Onondagas, Cayugas & Senecas, you said with that String we open your Eyes & your Ears that we might Conceive kind what You to say — We thank you Brothers for this Introductory address. We therefore now in our turn brighten up your Eyes & Understanding that you may hear what we have to say —

Brothers. In your speech to us you observed that the Council Fire which was long ago kindled by our Ancestors at Albany & Onondaga and which burnt bright & shone with a friendly light over this Country has been almost extinguished by the late war with the King of Great Britain. This brought it afresh on our minds we remember the things that our Ancestors engaged — Again you said that you gathered the remaining brands & rekindled this fire, that the Antient friendship might revive & that our Offspring mutual might enjoy its Influence

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and benign influence —

Brothers, We thank you for this, it exactly meets our Disposition and feelings of our minds, we therefore by this string Confirm your Declaration — this Brothers we confirm because our Voice will be heard by all our Brothers to the Westward, for which we trust it will remain secure — Again you said that as the path which leads to our respective habitations was again opened we had the Satisfaction of taking each other by the Hand as Brothers —

Brothers. This is true what you have said we are surrounded with Evidences of your friendly disposition, for we are happy while we are here at this Council fire & the Design of meeting at this Council fire was for the purpose of settling those differences & Animosities which had arisen between us during the late War occasioned by our Conduct as well as yours — Your father said that your purpose was to settle Boundary lines between you & us on such Equitable Terms as will give mutual Satisfaction — this Brothers meets with our entire approbation, for surely we have a Love for our Country it is our wish that this matter may be now attended to & accomplished to our mutual Satisfaction — This seems necessary to be fixed for then a free & generous Trade will be carried through our Country — then will revive the Antient friendship which subsisted between the Six Nations & your Dutch Ancestors — Again you Observed that this was a matter of great importance especially as it had become

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a free & Independent State and so acknowledged by Great Britian & other foreign States — this Brothers we know and are fully Sensible that you are a free & Independent State ~~& [illegible] by~~ to reastablish friendship & Peace between us & as a token that we receive your Speech & Confirm it we give you this Belt Line as a further Testimony of our Approbation of your rekindling this Council Fire we present you with this Pipe of Peace there to remain as a token of Peace from us agreable to the Custom of our Ancestors —

Brothers. You again spoke & expressed your wish this Treaty which was to bring about important matters might be conducted with a Spirit of sincere friendship — This is our Disposition, we mean in every respect to Conduct accordingly — You again Spoke & warned not to be led astray by evil minded person

Brothers. We thank you for this advice & warning, we take it for granted that you know we are Exposed to Deception otherwise you would not have warned us This we shall Observe we will be on our Guard as we suppose it is necessary as our Lands will be an Object of Jealousy —

Brothers. You again Spoke & recommended to us to embrace the present opportunity least it should be lost by negligence — This we Embrace for this very purpose came we to this place because we are left to Treat for ourselves & have a free & Independent Power for that purpose —

Brothers, you again Spoke & made us acquainted that the Powers of managing Indian Affairs belonged to Congress & that they had appointed Commissioners for this purpose and that you were appointed for this particular State to manage Indn. Affairs, with the Indians residing within the Bounds thereof. In Consequence of which you appear here at this place — There was some difficulty in our minds that there shou'd be two separate Bodies to manage these affairs, for this does not agree with our Antient Customs — This was the reason why we made such a Reply when your messenger Mr. Ryckman came to our Country — It was the voice of our Chiefs & their Confederates that we shou'd first meet Commissioners of the whole Thirteen States and after that if any matters shou'd remain between us & any particular State that we shou'd then attend to them — At the same time we are fully determined notwithstanding all this to make a final settlement with you & do all we can for that purpose & to confirm the truth of our Words we give you this Belt. —

Brothers. You again spoke mentioning the Letter you Recd. of the 11th. Augt. last from Capt. Brant by which we informed you that we were sent by the Six Nations & their Confederates to settle some points necessary to be arranged previous to a more general meeting — That these points were you desired us to let you know for you on your part now attend according to the Antient Custom between your Ancestors & ours & that the mode or manner of our coming was not according to Antient Custom & desired us also to let you know the reason of this & also desired us to inform whether we had sufficient Powers for the purposes mentioned in your

We now reply & fully Explain to you the manner & mode of our Coming Down — In the first place we assign this reason when your messenger Mr. C. Ryckma came to us with your meſsage, in our Answer we told him we should first send to our Confederates & as soon as we a return from them you should hear from us, & we also then Requested to hear from you in Answer to what we sent by him; A second reason we aſsign is this, You appointed the German Flats for the place of the Council Fire, in our reply we requested it might be at Ft Stanwix & that the Commiſsioners from Congreſs might be acquainted therewith & be there, that we might have the Voice of the whole — When your Meſsenger left us we enjoined on him to let us have an Answer on these two points, On our parts as soon as we had an Answer from our Confederates we informed & we were then in Constant Expectation to hear from you — At this time came Cheifs from four Nations of our Confederates & they then told us that Sachems of two other Nations were yet behind & were daily expected — Upon our informing of the place of meeting which was this very place, they refused coming down so far & said that Niagara was the most Central for meeting & that it was their Antient place of meeting & because they would not agree to come down is the reason why we did not send a Runner as we had promised & as we had not received any account from you of the Alteration in the place of meeting — We are sent by our Nations in the manner we now appear to Treat with you & have Powers for that purpose — Had your last meſsage come in time the whole of our Nations would have been here & in Testimony that we have Powers to Treat with you, we present you with this String & wish you would let let us know what you have father to say to us

Copy
Speech of the Deputies of the
Six Nations —
Ft. Stanwix 9th Sept. 1768

BRITISH MUSEUM

1784.

From

Lieut. Col. de Peyster

3d. Sept. R—

Translation of a Letter from Captain Brant to Captn. Aaron a Mohock dated at Fort Stanwix the 9th September 1784. —

Since my last I find nothing but what is agreable to our intentions and expect our Buſineſs will soon come to a Conclusion, the Conversation we have already had with the Governor of New York induces me to be of this opinion; — it made us uneasy that the meſsenger dispatd Congreſs to invite down the Six Nations had paſsed us without our knowledge, as we were anxious to have spoken with the Governor before he went on, this is the reason you did not hear from us at the time mentioned my last letter. — We Request that the Cheifs will immediately take the contents of this letter into Consideration & that they will prepare themselves for this buſineſs, let them make no delay in attending at this fire place, doubtleſs you have received the meſsage from Congreſs inviting you to attend — we are desirous that Sagaiya the Cayuga Cheif and yourself will lose no time in setting out immediately let no other Buſineſs detain you and I know you wish to be informed of what has already paſsed the particulars you'll soon have an opportunity of hearing & We hope the other Cheifs will not be dilatory but come down as soon as Convenient

&c

and that you'll lose no time in what I have recommended as it appears to us that no disputes will arise concerning our Lands, I imagine it will be settled agreeable to our wishes, hope you'll consult with our Brethren from Detroit we wish them to attend at this meeting & request they will accompany you —

Translation of a Letter from
Captn. Brant to Captn. Aron a Mohock
dated at Fort Stanwix the 9th
Septr. 1784

Dear Sir — Niagara Septr. the 9th. 1784

The 7th. Inst the Deputies from the western Nations Desir'd A meeting in which they inform'd me of their great uneasiness in not hearing from the 6 nation Indians Gone to Fort Stanwix with Capt. Brant, that they had been already here 40 Days a term much longer than they at first intended to Stay & that their people would be impatient at their unexpected Delay and Assur'd me they wished much to return by the first Opportunity— They also Applied for Arms—

I Told them their Surprise was not greater than my own in not hearing from Fort Stanwix that it certainly must be owing to some unforeseen Accident that however I was in hourly Expectation of News from that Quarter & thought they would much Disappoint the Expectations of their friends Should they Return without being Able to inform them concerning the Subject they came here on. I Gave them Strong Assurances that I was Confident we should Shortly be Satisfied on that head — As to Arms we had none in Store — I had not finished when a Messenger Brought me a Letter directed to Capt. Aaron from Capt. Brant a Translation of which I enclose you — Altho not Very Clear on the Subject, Something may be Collected from it—

Sir John Johnson Bart.

There is but one Commissioner to meet the Ind.s at Fort Stanwix
And that for the State of N York Consequently I Should imagine
Nothing final can be Determined on — I fancy a Variety of matters
of a more interesting nature to the Colonies than an Indian treaty at
present Claim their Attention, Which Joyn'd to their unsettled State
in respect of internal Government & also their want of a sufficient number of Soldiers
to take possession of the upper posts (Should they be Given up to them
At present) make them prudently Anxious to put of to a future
Day a General meeting with the Indians. I find by Joseph's letter
that he Suspects they Design to Attempt to Divide the Indians
& Break their Chain of Confederacy by treating with them Separately
I Suppose each Colony with the Indians on their frontiers, this is
a Circumstance I hope they will Cautiously Guard Against —
Uninstructed as I am how to act in this Critical period when we
Can Infer the intentions of Government in regard to the Indians
only from their Attention in sending out Considerable presents for them
I Anxiously wish to have your Sentiments by which I may
Regulate my future Conduct — I Sensibly feel the Consequences of having
our Departm.t reduced as I can Scarce rely on any intelligence from
the Different frontier Villages this only I can inform yourself that the
Colonies to bring rum in large Quantities to the Ind.n Castles where
they find a ready markett for it & which I am Apprehensive it may
produce disagreeable Consequences — our Ind.s left without a Drop
of that Exhilerating Liquor I have nearly Expended two barrells of red
Wine as a Substitute for it — pray send some up, you know it is the
Sine qua non — with Constant Good Wishes for yourself & family
I Remain Dear Cousin your's

John Dease

Brothers. We have heard your Answer to our Introductory Speech & Considered it
attentively — We are happy to find that you Correspond in Sentiments
with us with respect to the important matters we proposed to you, &
that you discover a Disposition to adopt just & Equitable Measures for
reviving & Confirming that friendship which formerly subsisted betw
us and which was so unhappily interrupted by the War with Great
Britain, & we receive with satisfaction the assurances you have given
to us that you have powers to Treat with us upon these different matter
necessary to bring about this salutary object —

Brothers. In all our Communications with you to Effect the proposed meeting
we have endeavoured to be as explicit as possible so that you might
fully Comprehend & understand the Grounds & principles upon whi
we meant to Treat with you, and the Powers under which you Act
& to remove all difficulty and Doubt from your minds on this Subjec
and as a further evidence of Candor & Sincerity which we have recom
mended to observed & which we expect on your part — We have laid
before you the Confederation of the United States — The Constitution
of this State & the particular Law under which we act, that you migh
see & judge for yourselves before we proceed farther on the business

Brothers. We trust that the difficulties you expressed about the different
Commissioners are now fully removed from your minds and that
you are clearly convinced that we have a proper Right to Negotiate
& settle all the matters between us which we proposed to you we shall

there

therefore now proceed —

Brothers. To Remove the Animosities which have arisen during the Late War we told you it would be necessary to Establish Boundary Lines between you & us, on just & Equitable Terms. In Considering our Losses, the Debts we have incurred doing of which and our former friendship it is reasonable that you make to us such a Cession of your Lands as will Aid us in repairing and Discharging the same —

Brothers. We will not in the first instance mention any Quantity or describe any particular Tract, this can be better done hereafter, when we are more fully informed of your Sentiments on this Subject. We would only observe that in the settlement of this business we wish to be governe by equity & mutual Convenience and that we expect part of the Lands to be Ceded will Lie in the Vicinity of Niagara and Oswe to accomodate our Antient settlements at those places —

Brothers, This is the principal point to be adjusted, if this can be satisfactorily accomplished and our people who are in Captivity wit you Liberated and Returned to their friends all differences and Animosities will subside, and we propose in this case on our p to extend to you all those assurances for securing you in the possess of your Lands and to prevent frauds and impositions which might be committed against you, which you find provided for by our Constitution and Laws and which you have lately hear

us

give to our Brethren the Oneydas and Tuscaroras, In testimony of which we give you this Belt —

Brothers. We think it proper also to mention to you that if a settlement should be happily effected and these aſsurances be on our part given to you, that you will on your part faithfully continue to Observe the Antient Rule established between us, while we were a Colony and enacted by the Constitution of this State, not to dispose of any of your Lands lying within its Limits without the Consent or approbation of our Government and that you will expreſsly Stipulate that if at any time hereafter you should Dispose of any of your lands within our Bounds — That in that case you will always give us the right of Preemption, so that the State by any Act of yours may not be injured in its rights, In Testimony whereof we give you this Be

Brothers — The Pipe of peace which agreable to the Custom of your Ancestors you have presented to us, as a Testimony of your approbation of Rekindling this Council fire, shall be carefully preserved as a Solemn token of the Sincerity of your profeſsions —

a Belt of 7 Rows . . .

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Speech to the Deputies of the Mohawks &ca —

10th.. Septemr. 1784 —

BRITISH MUSEUM

Brothers — We have received your Speech and considered it well, and are happy to find that you and we so well agree in sentiment and that there is the greatest prospect of settling the differences which have arisen between us.

Brothers. We are Exceedingly happy & return you thanks for the Candour and Explicitneſs with which you have conducted this Buſineſs on your part — We have considered the Confederation of the United States, the Constitution of this State & the Law under which you act and are fully sensible of your Right as Commiſsioners of this State in Treating with us the Six Na who live & reside within its limits —

Brothers: You have already experienced Candor & explicitneſs on our part & you may be aſsured of that Candor & explicitneſs which ought always to be observed in a buſineſs of this nature & especially among Brethren who live & reside near each other ..

Brothers. you have told us that in order to remove the Animosities which have arisen between us during the late war, that Boundary lines between you and us should be settled & that in consideration of your Loſses the Debts you had incurred & the former friendship which subsists between you and us, it was reasonable that we should make to you, such a Ceſsion of our Lands as would Aid you in repairing and Discharging the same —

Brothers, We have already told you that we were ready to settle Boundary Lines upon just equitable terms & we now repeat it, and as you have called upon to know what Territory we would have and as you expreſs a wish to have part of the Lands to be ceded to lie in the Vicinity of Niagara & Oswego to accommodate your antient settlements at those places – We now reply that the request you make for Lands for the above purposes in general & in the manner in which you have made it, we as Deputies think reasonable, but we must observe to you that we are sent in Order to make and that we are not Authorised to stipulate any particular Ceſsion of Lands, we shall however recommend it to our respective Nations & we believe they will meet your wishes to specify to you the Lands they are willing to grant to you – This Busineſs we expect they will Treat with you about as soon as the Treaty with the Commiſsioners from Congreſs in ended –

Brothers, You have particularly expreſsed your wish to have Lands at Niagara and Oswego for the accommodation of your antient settlements at those places – We have formerly Ceded some Lands to the Government of the late Colony of New York for the use of the King, this already belongs to you by the Treaty with Great Britain and as to Oswego we think it reasonable that you should have Lands there, but as to the Quantity for the reasons before mentioned we cannot Determine, we will Also in respect to this earnestly recommend it to our respective Nations and we have every reason to suppose it will be granted

you

Brothers. You told us that this was the principal Point to be settled between us & if this could be Adjusted & your people in Captivity with us liberated all Differences and Animosities would Subside — We have already determined that when a general peace takes place (and have sent yesterday to our Nations for that purpose) that all the Prisoners should be Liberated and Returned — Brothers you further inform us that if a settlement should take place and the assurances of your part given of securing us in all our Lands agreable to the Old Custom that we would faithfully continue to observe the antient Rule established between you and us, while we we were a Colony Renewed by your Constitution not to Dispose of any of our Lands lying within your State without your Consent and approbation — This we agree to and assure you that we shall abide by the antient Rule and Custom these were good and we as a people derived our mutual advantages from it —

In Testimony of the truth of all we have said we deliver you this Belt — — —

Into the Way of New York for the use of the King [illegible]

[illegible] that you should have [illegible]

Niagara Septr. 18th. 1784

Dear Sir John

The meeting at Fort Stanwix being the Object to which the Attention of the Indians is at present anxiously Directed, I have Almost Daily Meetings with them on that Subject. they immediately Communicate to Me every information they receive & I as regularly transmit it to You. You have inclosed to You by this Opportunity two Letters, one Addressed to Capt. Fraser & the Other to Capt. Aaron. — The Indians have Also Received A Message from Congress brought to them by one Deane formerly A Schoolmaster at Anughquaga inviting the principal Chiefs & Warriors to Hasten to the meeting at Fort Stanwix where they told them Commissioners From Congress would Attend Abt. the 27th. Inst. — On enquiring into the Particulars of Dean's Message I learnd that he came Directly to Chenussio Having Avoided Fort Stanwix where he knew the Governor of New York & the Deputies from the Six Nations were then met, & that he refused to Confer With Joseph who sent a Messenger to inform him that he wished to Speak with him before he should Deliver his Message his Message was not Committed to writing Altho Genl. Washington in a letter to B. Genl. Maclean [illegible] a little before his Departure from this post, Expressed his Wishes that No Attention might be paid to any Verbal Message as Every transaction that related to public business with the Indians should be sent in Writing Accompanied with a Belt — from this & Other Circumstances I am inclined to Suspect that no Great Cordiality Subsists Between Congress & the State of N York

Sir John Johnson Bart.

On the present Occasion — I have Constantly Represented to them Indians in Our meetings the impropriety of having their congress at Fort Stanwix They knew that place was Disapproved of by the Western Deputies And they even promised them not to Consent to have it there — I cautioned them against Doing any thing that might Weaken the Chain of friendship With these nations Or make them Appear fickle or irresolute in Their Eyes. I laid before them all the Disadvantages of Acting Except in Cooperation with them — I also made them view Deans. Message in its proper light — in Consequence of Which they burned it — were I inclined to particularize All that passed on this Subject I should much Exceed the Bounds of a Letter I therefore Refer You to Capt. Frazer who will be so kind as to hand You this —

I have had some Messages from the Missasagues Respecting the Sale Of their Lands. & I Understand that there were some Geographical Errors happened On that Occasion by Running the line farther N.W. of than They intended — There is also some Rum & Other Articles still Due to them, When Enabled I Shall Visit them & the New Ind. Settlement at the head of the Lake & Satisfy them — Capt. Nelles who has the Commander in Chiefs permission & pass to trade with the Missasagues on the Grand River where the Delawares are Settled, has requested I should Mention to You that he would Esteem it a Great favor to be permitted to take up his Lands there; I hope his Losses & long Services will plead With You in his favor — he is certainly an honest man —

I wish much to hear from You & the family — what Your resolutions are About Going home, whenever You are or whatever You do God Bless You

I am Dear Cousin

Yr. Affectly.

John Dease

P.S. I hear that Capt. Brant is coming here & will be in three Days at this post [illegible] rells of Beef & Pork were not full & badly packed. One Barrell of Biscuit only half full. The Barrell of Wine wanted several Gallons.

Wm. Colbrath.

[No. 5496.]

Joseph Brant to the United States Commissioners Regarding the Duplicity of Mr. Kirkland.

Fort Stanwix, 20 Sept., 1784.

Gent., I take this Liberty of addressing you on a subject that may affect the interest of the United States, and the Six nations of Indians of which I am a member. I was at the Council Fire of those Nations on the [illegible] day of August last at Buffaloe & I was then authorized by them with others as Deputies from those respective nations in consequence of a Message from Governor Clinton to meet at this place to adjust and settle some matters with this State, previous to a more general meeting. The same evening I arrived here, Mr. Kirkland came to this place, and informed me that he had a message from you to be forwarded by Mr. Dean to the Six Nations, and requested me to return to Kanonogharie, from whence I that day came. I declined returning that Day — because I was fatigued, and could not consistant with other engagements. I told him at the same time that it was absolutely necessary, that I should be acquainted with the purport of the message, as to render it effectual it appeared to me; it ought to be accompanyed with a message from their deputies here.

The same Evening Governor Clinton arrived. I acquainted him of what had passed on this occasion, and tho' he mentioned that he was not immediately concerned in that business, he very generously offered to give me his assistance in forwarding any communication to the Indians that I might think proper to make to them; whereupon I immediately dispatched a Runner to the Oneydas with a Letter informing them of my sentiments on this subject, and of the propriety of the deputies here being made acquainted with the purport of your message least if it should not be attended with some notification from us to them it might prove abortive. Notwithstanding which it seems the Gentleman charged with it thought proper to proceed, to the Country of the Six Nations without seeing us or communicating the subject of his Errant.

These matters I have thought proper to inform you of; that if any disappointment should take place, it might be imputed to the right cause, and not attributed to the deputies here or the Nations whom they represent incur any blame.

I am, Gent. Your most humble serv't.

[No. 5571.]

Governor Clinton to the New York Delegates in Congress Apprising Them of the Approaching Adjournment of the Legislature.

New York, 11th April, 1785.

Gentlemen, I am informed that the Assembly have passed a Resolution for adjourning on Friday next, and tho' it is uncertain whether it will meet with the Concurrence of the Senate as to that particular Day: yet I have every Reason to believe they will rise (if not before) in the Course of the next Week, at farthest, unless prevented by New Business. I have therefore thought it my Duty to apprize you of this in order that if there are any Matters now before Congress which will call for Legislative Declaration that you may urge the necessity of their being expedited so as that they

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John Nicholson Esquire
Comptroller General
Philada

to Care of Mr Lloyd

Sepr 23d
1784
from Griffith Evans

7th oct 1784 [illegible] by your most
obt Hum Servt
R. Lloyd

Dr Sr

Albany Sepr 23d 1784

Yesterday I arrived here after a tedious passage almost every Difficulty that could be conceived of has been thrown in our way — I cant attempt to recite the thousand strange occurrences that I have experienced since, for almost every thing appears so different from usual prospects that they all make Curiosities — to morrow I go for Stanwix, our Comrs are all here & to set out together I'm in haste

remember me

I am sincerely

G Evans

Mr Nicholson

Please mention me to my friends
and forward the Inclosed —

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY ALBANY
13515-1

Honord by
Mons: De Mar

Mr Owen has order to receive from you the mony Due me from Dr Plunket if he paid it — I've instructed him to Dispose of it

lease forward the Inclosed

G E

Geo Evans

lie when I compelled to Lodge with them in a Wigwam possessed of no Other Ideas — which was my case coming to this place & that 8 or 10 Miles from a White person save one companion but I accepted of it rather than lie out without fire or blanket —— but I am now become quite familiarized by 3 or 4 days being with & having them continually in view — I am now Just returned from a Grand Dance round a Council fire Jig my Jole with 'em & am quite hoarse hallowing in con.

Give my Compliments to all my friends

I am with great respect

Yours Sincerely

Gr Evans

We have no prospects of the completion of this Treaty ~~yet~~ the Tribes having not near all attended yet ——

Fort Stanwix
Octo 5th 1784

Sir

We are at last arrived at this place having Survived almost every possible difficulty of combining Nature and Art, considerable number of Indians have met already, We have had two Councils or meetings, the Marquis De Fayette who is with us has spoken a long talk, & they answered very fully, he has made them Rich presents & is at present fully in their good Wishes, the Continental Comrs also have delivered a talk & recd an Answer - I'm very much Surprized at the force and comprehension of their Ideas and generally Coherent - they at first were tremenduous & disagreeable to me, think what must must my feelings as I am apprehensive that few officers will serve with pleasure where they are subject to be thwarted by an ignorant jury as often as a designing man, or an ignorant multitude shall be pleased to be troublesome.

I take the liberty to enclose extracts of the several letters I have mentioned, and have the honor to be with the most exalted respect your excellency's most ob't and most humble serv't.

D. B.
Col. 1st Penna. Regiment.

To his Excellency Thos. M'Kean, Esq.

TREATY OF FORT STANWIX, IN 1784.

This proceeding was an important event in the history of the country "around the head of the Ohio." Many of our readers will, probably have noticed, that in the survey of the manor of Pittsburgh, great care was taken not to cross the Allegheny, or Ohio rivers. The North West boundary of the manor was the Southern shore of the Allegheny river. Some persons have asked why the manor line was not so run as to make the Point at the junction of the rivers the centre of the manor, and to embrace the present site of Allegheny city as well as Pittsburgh. The reason was a very simple one. The last proprietary purchase of lands in Penna. from the Indians was made at the first treaty of Fort Stanwix, in 1768. The boundary at that purchase was a line from the West branch of the Susquehanna to Kittaning, and thence down the Allegheny and Ohio to the West line of this State, thence South to the Southern line of this State, and then East along that line, &c. This, of course, excluded all the country North and West of the Ohio and Allegheny, and the proprietaries were always too regardful of the rights of the Indians, to claim a foot of land not previously ceded by them.

Even when the town of Pittsburgh was laid out, the country across the Allegheny river was still owned and occupied by the natives, and long within the memory of the editor, a person going into the country over the Allegheny, was said to be going to the "*Indian Country.*" Pittsburgh was laid out in May, 1784, and in October of that year was held the second treaty of Fort Stanwix, at which the Indian title to all the land North and West of the Ohio and Allegheny, and within the limits of this State, was extinguished.

Our war for independence was a trying and pregnant event in the history of the Six Nations. In all previous wars the colonies had acted as subordinates to Great Britain, the Six Nations had been the faithful allies of the British King, and of course acted with our countrymen. At length however, a family quarrel ensued, the Thirteen United States deemed it necessary to resist the demands of the mother country. War ensued, and the Iroquois could scarcely be expected to remain neutral under such circumstances. Their admirable confederacy had kept them united in all wars between France and Great Britain, but now division ensued; the Oneidas and Tuscaroras adhered to the colonies, and the other nations to Great Britain, and upon the return of peace, found themselves at the mercy of the United States.

In 1784, Congress appointed five Commissioners to hold treaties with the various tribes of Indians within our limits. For this purpose a conference was held at Fort Stanwix, now Rome, in the State of New York, in October, 1784.

At this conference Oliver Wolcott, Gen. Richard Butler, and Arthur Lee, were the Commissioners on the part of the United States; Commissioners representing this State were also present. *Capt. O'Bail*, better known as *Cornplanter*, was a prominent person. The address of the Commissioners in prescribing the terms on which the Indians would be received into the protection of the United States, has always seemed to us to be remarkably forcible, and to possess even more than Roman sternness. Brennus, when he exclaimed "Woe to the conquered," and threw his sword into the scale, was scarcely more emphatic and dictatorial than the American Commissioners in their address to the Mohawks, Cayugas, Onondagas and Senecas.

The Romans of America were, however, less fortunate than the Romans of Europe, they had no Camillus to interpose between the victors and the conquered. Being abandoned to the mercy of the United States, by their ancient ally, the King of Great Britain, and almost deserted by the Oneidas and Tuscaroras, two of their own tribes, resistance was hopeless, and submission their only resource.

We have in our possession a manuscript copy of a portion of the proceedings at the conference, and as we have never seen the address in print, we have concluded to give it a place in the "Olden Time."

After the above remarks were in type, our attention was called to the notice of this treaty in Col. Stone's Life of Brant, in which we find the following remarks:

"The records of this treaty, containing the speeches interchanged on "the occasion, seem not to have been preserved, as has been usual in diplomatic matters with the Indians. Nothing appears upon the subject "among the Indian State papers at the seat of government, save the naked result of the Council, in the form of a very brief treaty, signed by "the nations represented instead of the several chiefs. It is known, however, that among the leading chiefs, who took an active part, were the "*Corn Planter* and Red Jacket."

Again Col. Stone says, "Red Jacket, a somewhat younger chief than "the Corn Planter, was opposed to the burial of the hatchet, and spoke "with vehemence and great eloquence in favor of a continuance of the "war by the Indians, on their own account."

Many years ago, the editor was preparing a hasty sketch of the life of Gen. Richard Butler, for a newspaper, when his son, the late gallant and estimable Capt. James R. Butler, placed in our hands several interesting documents, among others, the original minutes of the Council at Fort Stanwix in 1784. Until we saw the remarks above quoted from Colonel Stone's Life of Brant, we were not aware that the only account of the proceedings of Fort Stanwix in existence was that in our possession.

Our first intention, at this time, was only to publish the address to the Six Nations above referred to; but after reading the remarks of Colonel Stone, we concluded to commence our extract with the first assemblage of the Commissioners at Fort Stanwix, and to embrace all that follows from that time to the end of our volume of the "minutes." By this, it will be seen that the name of *Red Jacket* or *Sagayewatha* does not appear, so far as the minutes extend. It may be that he spoke in opposition to the treaty on the 21st, after *Capt. Aaron Hill* had concluded, or on the next day; but it is not very probable, as the treaty was signed on that day and fixed the boundary precisely as is indicated in the address of the Commissioners.

In the first speech of the Commissioners, the Indians are desired to hearken to the voice of *Kayenlaa*, the Marquis de la Fayette; but no speech of *Kayenlaa* is given, or farther referred to. Among the papers placed in our hands, by our late estimable friend Capt. Butler, is a translation of an address to the Indians, in a very clerk-like hand writing, but signed by La Fayette himself, attesting its correctness. There is neither place nor time mentioned in it; but there is strong internal evidence that it is the address referred to by the Commissioners at Fort Stanwix. We introduce it after the close of that portion of the minutes in our hands.

Albany, Sept. 23d, 1784, Commissioners adjourned to Fort Stanwix.

Fort Stanwix, October 3d, 1784.

Commissioners met. Present as before, the Hon. Oliver Wolcott, Richard Butler, and Arthur Lee, Esqs. Several of the Indians from the different nations having convened. The Commissioners called them together in the Council place, where, being all assembled, the following speech was delivered:

"SACHEMS, AND WARRIORS OF THE SIX NATIONS PRESENT—It is with pleasure we announce to you that we are Commissioners sent by Congress, who is the great Council of the United States of America, to kindle a Council fire at this place, where we may smoke the Calumet together undisturbed by evil thoughts, and renew the friendship, and brighten the chain of alliance with *you our faithful brothers*, and give peace and good counsel *to those* who have been unfortunately led astray by evil advisers. We therefore wish you to put away all evil thoughts, and cleanse your hearts, and minds, that we may begin the good work with sincerity, in which we invoke the great and good God to assist us. We expect the head men and warriors of the Western tribes of the Six

Nations, will attend in a few days, *then* we shall speak more fully, and go into the business generally.

"We know from experience that ill winds blow from every quarter, and birds fly about with evil chirpings, in order to distract the minds and understandings of people when convened on such occasions. We therefore warn you against them that you may not hearken to them, or be led into the evils which they intend; we also tell you that we have full authority to transact all business between the United States, and you, and that without the authority of Congress no business can be valid that may be attempted by particular people or States.

"We shall say no more at present, but desire you to hearken to the voice of Kayenlaa, the Marquis de La Fayette, a great man among the French, one of the head warriors of the great Onondio, and as you all know a General in the American Army, and a head man among us, who comes with his friends to pay you a visit and give you the advice of a father."

A white string.

To which Kayenthoghke, a chief of the Senecas,* replied:

"Brothers Commissioners of the United States—

"You have this day assembled us at the place appointed for holding a treaty between the United States and us, and have informed us that you are Commissioners appointed by Congress, who, you tell us is the great Council of the United States of America, to give peace to all the Indian Nations.

"Brothers, we congratulate you on your safe arrival here, and are truly glad to see you. Peace, which you mention to be the object of your coming, is what we have long and fervently wished for.

"Brothers, we thank you for your good counsel. We know as you observed that birds often fly about with evil chirpings, and that ill winds blow from every quarter, to trouble and disturb the minds of persons, when engaged in affairs of so important a nature as the present, but we trust that our ears will be shut so as to reject all their evil words, and that nothing will hinder us from happily ending the good work which we have come upon.

"Brothers, you inform us that you expected the Chiefs of the Six Nations would be here in a few days, and that then you would enter fully upon the business. These, brothers, were your words and we wish that every thing may turn out to the advantage of the present treaty, for truly we are for peace.

"Let the ears of the Commissioners of the United States be opened to receive the words which we have said. It is our wish that all past offences may be forgotten, and that there may be a general peace between us, and our brothers, the Americans." [A string.]

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* We think this chief could not be a Seneca.—EDITOR O. T.

The Council broke up, and the Commissioners adjourned.

Monday, 4th——Letter to the Hon. Commissioners of Pennsylvania of this day, omitted to be entered. Commissioners met. Present as before. Adjourned.

Tuesday, 5——Commissioners met. Present as before. The following Resolution was made.

Whereas, The order which has been published by the Commissioners, prohibiting all persons from selling or giving spirituous liquor to the Indians during the negotiation, has not been attended to, but several sutlers at, or near Fort Stanwix, presume to sell strong liquor to the Indians, some of which are still used by which they are daily intoxicated, and the negotiation is thereby much impeded.

Resolved, That all strong liquors in the hands of persons at, or near Fort Stanwix, other than such as shall be detained by the special approbation of the Commissioners, be immediately seized and an account thereof taken together with the names of the Owners, and that it be stored, in the Commissioners store, and that it be not opened but according to their order.

To his Excellency, the President of Congress.

Fort Stanwix, Oct. 5th.

Sir.—We have the honor to inform your excellency that we arrived here on the 2d, having been delayed by various difficulties in forwarding the stores and troops.

Some only of the Chiefs from different tribes, and some from Canada are now here, and we have information that many more are on their way and expected daily, and therefore delay opening our business, 'till the whole shall be assembled; having announced to those present our arrival, in these we find a very pacific disposition, and an acknowledgment of past errors.

Though we gave due information to the governor of New York of the time, and place of holding the treaty, that if he had any business to transact with the Indians, he might do it under the patronage of the United States, yet he chose to hold a treaty with the Six Nations before us, and we are told endeavored to make peace with them in the name of this State.

We cannot learn that he succeeded in purchasing territory from them, and we thought proper to inform the Indians in our conference, that a treaty with an individual State, without the sanction of Congress, could be of no validity. We have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed,)
OLIVER WOLCOTT,
RICHARD BUTLER,
ARTHUR LEE.

N. B.—The Commissioners met those of Pennsylvania, who laid before them the Commission, and instructions received from the Supreme Executive of the State, which were entirely satisfactory to the continental Commissioners.

To Lieut. John Mercer, of the Jersey Troops.

Fort Stanwix, October 5th, 1784.

SIR.—The Commissioners appointed by Congress to hold treaties with the Indians in behalf of the United States of America finding their advertisement of the 20th September last directing that no spirituous liquors be sold or given to the Indians during the negotiation, neglected by the traders and others, on this ground, find themselves obliged to have the liquors taken an account of, and stored; you are therefore directed to take a party of men, and place a sentinel, or sentinels at the stores that have spirituous liquors in them until the owners give an account of the quantity, which if they neglect or refuse to do, you will mark their casks with the owners' names, and then have them removed to the Blockhouse for the purpose of preserving the same for the owners, and to preserve peace and sobriety during the transaction of public business with the Indians. The sutlers, or traders will, if they think proper appoint a person, or persons to see their liquors so taken, deposited in the public store.

This you will perform with punctuality and dispatch, as a number more Indians are hourly expected to arrive.

OLIVER WOLCOTT,
(Signed,) RICHARD BUTLER,
ARTHUR LEE.

Commissioners adjourned.

Wednesday, October 6th, 1784.

Commissioners met, present as before—

In consequence of information received, the following letter was written and delivered

To Peter Schuyler, Esq.

Fort Stanwix, Oct. 6th, 1784.

SIR.—We have had information from time to time of your interfering with the Indians, whom we have called to a treaty with the United States at this place, of your having an interpreter with you, of your giving liquor to the Indians, as if you was a Commissioner, and by various direct and indirect means counteracting our negotiations with them.

It is proper, therefore, sir, to inform you that there is no authority now existing that can warrant you in being on the ground, which we have appointed for a public treaty, and holding any commerce with the Indians here without our permission.

We perceive the effects of your conduct to be highly injurious to the service of the United States, and therefore warn you that if in future, we find you pursuing the same conduct, or in any way meddling in this treaty, it will be our duty to the public, and we shall assuredly execute it, to request you to remove from this place, which request will be such as you cannot easily refuse. We have the honor to be, &c.

OLIVER WOLCOTT,
(Signed,) RICHARD BUTLER,
ARTHUR LEE.

Commissioners adjourned.

Thursday, October 7th, 1784.

To M. Leonard.

Fort Stanwix, October 7th, 1784.

SIR.—The commissioners finding it necessary that the goods belonging to you now in the new store should be removed for the reception of theirs, request that you will forthwith act accordingly.

(Signed,) By order Commissioners,
ALEX CAMPBELL, Sec'y.

October 8th, 1784.

Captain Hill with a party of Indians, and some from the Shawnees, and Delawares, having yesterday arrived, the Commissioners this day assembled them in the Council place, where they were addressed as follows:

SACHEMS AND WARRIORS OF THE PARTY LATELY ARRIVED.—These are the words which we spoke at our first meeting with the tribes that were assembled at this Council fire—

(The speech of the 3d ultimo was read to which was subjoined the following:

" We also bid you welcome, and desire that your ears and understandings may be clear, that the dirt and sweat be wiped from your bodies, and the thorns be extracted from your limbs, that good thoughts prevail, and your hearts be sincerely disposed to do that which is right in forwarding the good work which we are met upon. We shall endeavor to render you happy while here, and expect you will conduct yourselves like men of sense." (A white string.)

To which one of the Chiefs replied, " that as they expected more of their head men in a few days, they would be glad to defer answering the address of the Commissioners 'till their arrival."

The Council broke up, and the Commissioners adjourned.

October 10th, 1784.

Commissioners met, present as before—

The Sheriff of Montgomery county, who had served a writ on the body of John Mercer, commanding officer of the troops raised for the protection, and under the order of the Commissioners, was called. Whereupon, the following proceedings were entered into:

The Commissioners having ordered that the said sheriff should not attempt, or endeavor to remove from hence Lieut. John Mercer, the following letter was addressed

To Maj. Jelles Fonda, and other justices of the inferior Court of Montgomery county.

Fort Stanwix, Oct. 10th, 1784.

Gentlemen.—When we arrived at this place to hold a treaty of peace &c., with the Six Nations in pursuance of a Commission from the United States, we found a number of persons, among whom were William Colebreath, Lawrence Trimper, and John Elliott, possessed of considerable quantities of spirituous liquors, and selling them to the Indians in contravention of a forbiddance issued by us at Albany, and made known to them here,—which proceedings must necessarily have frustrated the treaty by keeping the Indians in a state of intoxication. To prevent this public mischief we directed John Mercer, Esq., a Lieutenant in the troops put under our orders by a resolution of Congress for the express purpose of protecting the treaty to take an account of all the spirituous liquors in possession of these persons, that if they continued this pernicious practice, the liquors might be put into the public store to be kept safe and restored to the proprietors, when the treaty was concluded, and then they would have been at liberty to sell them to the Indians. We also ordered the officer to seize and store all spirituous liquors belonging to those who refused to give an account of them.

Under our written order shown to the above named persons, the aforesaid John Mercer acted, and on their refusal to give him the account required, seized and stored the spirituous liquors found in their possession.

In consequence of this one James Yale, professing himself to be a Sheriff of this county, under a writ, a copy of which we transmit you, arrested our said officer John Mercer, and demanded either that he should go to prison, or give bail for his appearance before you on Tuesday next.

We would not, and will not suffer him to do either—conceiving the dignity and rights of the United States would be violated by inferior jurisdiction over us, or over our officers, acting by our orders in execution of the high and important powers vested in us by the United States, for the peace and security of all the citizens of these States.

These things gentlemen we have represented to you in full confidence that you must immediately see the insulting and dangerous nature, and consequently the heinousness of the conduct of those persons concerned in the obtaining and issuing the writ aforesaid, and that you will treat them accordingly.

Their abuse of your authority to insult and embarrass us in the person of our officer, for restraining practices essentially necessary to be restrained and always restrained at such treaties, we are persuaded you will think with us, demands from you an exemplary animadversion against all who have been concerned in it, for such indignity and injuries offered to the authority of the United States, to the Commissioners vested with their powers, and to the officer acting by their orders, if encouraged by passing unpunished must necessarily involve this country, and this State in the most serious consequences.

If our officer acting under our orders, is liable to be carried to prison by your Sheriff, so are we, and the consequences would be that a few insignificant and mercenary individuals might not only frustrate any treaty with the Indians, but do it in the most insulting and opprobrious manner to the United States and their officers.

It is an aggravation too of the conduct of these people, if anything can aggravate their conduct, that they are trading with a people who have been at war with the United States, with whom Congress have not yet made peace, and with whom therefore it is criminal in the citizens of any of the United States to carry on trade.

We have the honor to be with the greatest respect, gentlemen, your most ob't servts.

OLIVER WOLCOTT,
(Signed,) RICHARD BUTLER,
ARTHUR LEE.

Resolution and order to John Mercer, Esq., Lieut. Commandant, to be entered among the proceedings of this day.

Fort Stanwix, October 11*th*, 1784.

The Commissioners met, present the Honorable Oliver Wolcott and Arthur Lee, Esqs.

The Secretary made the following report:

On Saturday, the 9th of October, Maj. Peter Schuyler delivered to me a paper which he said was a copy of his instructions mentioned in his letter of the 8th of October, to the Commissioners of the United States for treating with the Six Nations. This paper was a copy of one I saw in his possession, and neither of them had any seal or signature. The said paper directed the said Peter Schuyler together with one Peter Rightman, as an interpreter to attend at Fort Stanwix during the time of the Commissioners of the United States holding their treaty with the Indians, to observe the conduct of the said Commissioners, and to oppose, and frustrate any of their proceedings which might eventually effect the interests of the State of New York. This paper tho' so delivered to me for the Commissioners was not authenticated by Mr. Schuyler, therefore I called on him next day, and desired he would authenticate it; he took the paper out of my hand read it, and tore it, saying he would answer the Commissioners in another manner. Upon my demanding another copy of it, he refused it, but delivered me a sealed letter addressed to Oliver Wolcott, Arthur Lee, and Richard Butler, Esqs., which I delivered to them and of which the following is a copy.

Fort Schuyler, October 19th, 1784.

GENTLEMEN.—In vindication of my character as an officer of the State and to support that authority, by which I am ordered to remain on this ground during the present treaty, will justify my conduct in not answering your request.

I remain, gentlemen, your most obedient humble serv't.

(Signed,) PETER SCHUYLER.

To Oliver Wolcott, Arthur Lee, and Richard Butler, Esqs.

ALEX. CAMPBELL, Sec'y.

We having repeatedly read the paper sent to us by the said Peter Schuyler, and one Peter Rightman, as interpreter as his instructions certify that it contains directions to him to remain at the place appointed for holding a treaty, to watch our conduct, and to oppose and frustrate our measures.

OLIVER WOLCOTT,
RICHARD BUTLER,
ARTHUR LEE.

Resolved, That a meeting be held with the Indians to-morrow, and that the following speech be delivered.

SACHEMS AND WARRIORS.

When we last met, we informed you that we were commissioners appointed by Congress, the great Council of the United States, and authorized to transact all business to be done with the Indian Nation, and that the Commissioners of the United States, and they alone, or such as Congress should authorize, and appoint, were competent to perform this service, and that you ought not therefore to listen to any overtures made to you by any person, or body of men, or by any particular State not authorized by Congress.

That you may be assured of the authority under which we act, we will now publish to you our Commission, which we have received from the Congress of the United States.

(Commission read. A belt No. 2.)

We have it in charge from Congress to inform the tribes of the Six Nations, who were so unfortunate as to be seduced by ill-advisers to join the British army during the late war, that the United States having made peace with the King of Great Britain in a manner entirely agreeable to themselves, and correspondent to their utmost wishes, and having settled all differences with all people except the Indian Nations, are ready on their part, if desired, to give peace to those nations also, upon just and reasonable terms, and to receive them into the friendship, favor, and protection of the United States.

That the tribes here present may know upon what terms the United States have made peace with the King of Great Britain, we will communicate to you the definitive treaty of peace entered into between the United States, and him.

(Publications made, and strings No. 3 given.)

That you may be satisfied that the United States are the sole sovereigns within the limits just now described to you in the treaty with the King of Great Britain, and therefore the sole power to whom the nations living within those limits are hereafter to look up for protection; we shall read to you part of the treaty of alliance between the United States, and his most christian majesty, by which he renounces all claim to the said country.

(Sixth article read, and a string No. 1 given.)

By the treaty which has been read between the United States, and the King of Great Britain, the Indian nations will perceive that the King of Great Britain renounces, and yields to the United States all pretensions, and claims, whatsoever, of all the country South, and West of the Great Northern Rivers, and Lakes, as far as the Mississippi.

They will also perceive and consider that in this treaty, no mention is made by the King of Great Britain of any Indian Nation or tribe whatever, but that he has left those tribes to seek for peace with the United States, upon such terms as the United States shall think just and reasonable.

Brothers of the Oneida, Tuscarora, and Cooknewagha tribes, listen to what we say to those who took up the hatchet against us.

(Strings No. 4.)

SACHEMS AND WARRIORS.

We informed you in our Message that we should expect you to bring in, and deliver up, all the prisoners, white and black, which you took from us during the war. You have told us that it is your determination to deliver them up, that you have sent to collect them, and expect they will arrive here daily. We must inform you that delivering up all the prisoners is essential to your obtaining peace, and in reliance on what you have promised, and in expectation of their soon arriving here, we shall now proceed to other matters, but there are John Scanando, Peter Auguslomtrongas, and Hans Krine, some of our friendly Indians, whom we desire may be immediately released from their paroles.

(Belt No. 5 given.)

The United States, in making peace with the tribes here present will expect, in order to prevent future difficulties, or disputes, that you will propose such a boundary line between the United States and you, as will be just for you to offer, and honorable for the United States to agree to.

This salutary measure will entitle such tribes to a participation of that liberality and protection of the United States, which we perfectly well know to be their interest to embrace.

(Black and white string No. 6 given.)

As we do not wish to burthen your memory with too great a variety of objects at one time, we will say no more at present, but only observe that as the matters which we have mentioned are of the last importance to your peace, and happiness. We expect you will take them into your immediate and most serious consideration, and return us a satisfactory answer.

Fort Stanwix, October 11*th*, 1784

To Lieut. John Mercer.

SIR.—It is our desire that you go early to-morrow morning with a proper force, and take, and deposit in the Public Store all the spirituous liquors you can find in the houses of all the Sutlers, vendors, or givers within a mile of this place, taking an account of the quantity of such liquors, the vessels in which they are contained and the names of those to whom they respectively belong, marking the names and quantity upon the cask. It is our intention that Mr. Peter Schuyler and Mr. S. Rightman should not be excepted from this order

(Signed,)
OLIVER WOLCOTT,
RICHARD BUTLER,
ARTHUR LEE.

Adjourned till to-morrow 10 o'clock.

October 12*th*, 1784.

The commissioners met, present.

The Hon. OLIVER WOLCOTT,
RICHARD BUTLER,
ARTHUR LEE.
Esquires.

The proceedings of yesterday being read—agreeably to the resolution that a council be held with the Indians at 10 o'clock of that day. The Commissioners Resolved, that the following order be sent to Lieutenant John Mercer:

Fort Stanwix, October 12, 1784.

SIR.—It is the order of the Commissioners that you place Sentinels round the Booth where we are to hold a council with the Indians, at one o'clock this day; and you will give them strict orders not to admit in, or near the said place of holding the Council, Mr. Peter Schuyler, or Peter Rightman, but if they see them, or either of them listening to or observing what passes in the Council, they direct them to move off.

(Signed,) By order of the Commissioners.
ALEX. CAMPBELL, Sec'y.

To Lieut. John Mercer.

At the hour appointed, (the Indians having been previously ordered to assemble,) the Commissioners, attended by the gentlemen Representatives of Pennsylvania, met in the council place, where being all present, the speech as prepared on yesterday, was delivered, previous to which Capt. Aaron Hill, a chief of the Mohawk tribe, delivered the following speech acknowledging to the Commissioners the receipt of their message and informing them of their arrival.

"After repeating the invitation of the Commissioners of the United States to come to their council fire, he mentioned,

"That the reasons why they had not before attended were that they had been frequently invited by the Governor of the State of New York to come to a treaty with that State. That they enquired of the messenger, whether the treaty was in behalf of the United States, or of the State of New York only, to which he replied that it was not a continential treaty, but a particular one of that State. That they had written to the Governor of New York, requesting that it might be a continental treaty, but that he had never answered their letter, which kept them in a state of doubt until they received a message from the Commissioners of the United States, when it was so late in the day that it was difficult for such numbers to come as otherwise would have attended. Also that the sickness which universally pervaded their country was another cause of so small a number, being present.

"That, with respect to the prisoners which they were directed to bring with them it was so late in the day when they received the message of the Commissioners of the United States, that it was impossible for them to be collected in time,--*but* that Capt. Brant, whom he had met on his way hither had promised to have them instantly collected, and sent down, assuring the Commissioners that it was a matter absolutely determined upon, that all of them should be delivered up.

"That numbers of their brothers to the Westward, the Wyandots in particular had returned home, by reason of the advanced season of the year after having come as far as to Niagara, so that there were only present themselves, and their brothers, the Shawanese.

(The message belt sent by the Commissioners was delivered.)

The Commissioners then informed Capt. O'Bail,* one of the chiefs of the Seneca tribe, of the receipt of a letter, from the headmen of Six Towns, whereby they were informed that he was fully authorized to transact all business between the United States, and the inhabitants of those towns, and that to whatever he should say on their behalf, full credit might be given. The Commissioners also informed Capt. O'Bail that they would be happy in transacting business with a person of his wisdom and good name; to which Capt. O'Bail replied:

Let the Commissioners, Representatives of the United States now listen. You have this day assembled us at the place appointed for holding a council fire, and certainly the day was fixed upon by the great spirit for the purpose. You have opened fully your minds to us, and we see the business to be done at this treaty. We shall take it into our immediate and most serious consideration, and whenever we shall be prepared, you shall hear our voice.

The usual ceremonies being over, the council broke up, and the Commissioners adjourned till to-morrow at 10 o'clock.

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*Generally called Corn-Planter.—EDITOR O.T.

October 13, 10 *o'clock.*

Commissioners met, present as before; no business appearing to be done, adjourned till to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

October 14, 1784.

Isaac Arnold, of Albany, gave the following information:

That he left Niagara at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, five days ago; that on the 27th of September, Jacobus Taylor, of Schenectady, Daniel Bartley, from Westina, and Isaac Von Holston, from Kenderhook, in their way to Detroit, were shot dead at the place called the Bordel River, 24 miles this side of Long Point, carrying place from Niagara to Detroit by four young Indians of the Mohickan tribe, the said Isaac Arnold was present, and much wounded; they were fired upon as they were eating on the beach. Upon hearing of this, the commanding officer at Niagara sent an express after Col. Monroe, a member of Congress, who had set out across the country to Fort Pitt. Col. Depeyster commanded at Niagara, and behaved with great kindness. Capt. Brant had sent 10 Indians after the murderers, and told the said Arnold that he would have them if they were upon the face of the earth, and deliver them up.

In consequence of the arrival of the foregoing intelligence, the chiefs assembled in the Council House, and requested the attendance of the Commissioners, who accordingly met, when they were addressed in the following manner.

Brothers, Commissioners of the United States attend:

By the appointment of the great spirit above, this is the day in which we have received information of the blow, which has been struck upon you in your rear, during our mutual attention to business of the first importance in this treaty.

Brothers, we beg you to possess your minds in peace, and that you will not suffer this affair to interrupt the business of the treaty, as we mean to proceed to give you an answer to-morrow, to which the Commissioners replied:

Brothers of the Six Nations attend.

We have heard of the unhappy affair which you have mentioned, we have enquired into it, and suppose it to have been only the act of a few bad people, and not authorized by the voice of any particular tribe; we therefore shall take your advice, compose our minds, and not suffer this affair to interrupt the important business; and shall be happy to receive your answer to our speech to-morrow as you propose. Upon which the Council broke up.

October 17, 1784.

In consequence of intelligence received by the arrival of nine Senecas of the death of the daughter of Capt. O'Bail, a Chief of that nation, the

Commissioners accompanied by the Hon., the Representatives of Pennsylvania, met in the Council House, where the Indians had assembled in order to condole with him on his misfortune, and the usual ceremonies being over, and belts delivered on both sides, Captain Aaron Hill, a Chief of the Mohawk tribe, informed the Commissioners that they were ready to answer to the speech of the Commissioners, proposing certain matters for their consideration, and accordingly addressed them in the following manner:

BROTHERS, COMMISSIONERS OF THE U. S. ATTEND.

The great spirit has once more brought us together upon the important business which you proposed to us some days ago, and we shall endeavor to give it as full and satisfactory an answer as may be in our power, tho' should we not be precise enough, we must not be blamed, as we had not a copy of your speech agreeable to our desire.

You acquainted us that this great Council Fire was kindled for the purpose of settling all differences, and disputes between the United States, and us—to conclude a peace, and to cause to grow that specific disposition which at present appears mutually to subsist between us. This you informed us was your intention. You also acquainted us, that it remained entirely with us, whether there should be peace, or not, and that it was your desire to establish a lasting peace between the United States, and us. I see clearly the subject of your speech, and beg your attention to the words of the Warriors, for there are no Sachems amongst us.

The words of the warriors are strong, they are persons who have so travelled through the world, and borne all the difficulties of the war, that it is in their power to make a lasting peace. You told us that it was solely on us to make peace, but we apprehend that it is mutually dependent upon both parties. I speak in the name of the Six Nations, and not only in their name, but also in the name of all the other tribes—my voice therefore is strong—our minds are deep and persevering, and our wish to make peace is great. We are neither haughty, nor proud, nor is it our disposition ever of ourselves, to commence hostilities. Our adherence to our Covenant with the Great King, drew us into the late war, which is a great proof to the Commissioners of our strict observance of our ancient covenant with the white people, and you will find the same attachment to the Covenant now to be made, as that which signalized our conduct during the late war.

We are free, and independent, and at present under no influence. We have hitherto been bound by the Great King, but he having broke the chain, and left us to ourselves, we are again free and independent. Upon this principle we wish that the Commissioners would consider what we say as of ourselves, and not as being under the influence of any; that as free, and independent people, we have a right to treat for peace, which we wish to be so settled that if either party should in future go to war, the other may give their assistance, or refuse it, as it may please them.

(A string, No. 0.)

When taking up the belt of the Commissioners which was delivered on the reading their Commission he said:

Brothers, by this belt you informed us that you were authorized by Congress to settle a peace with us, and to prove that your powers were adequate, you produced your Commission from the Congress of the United States. We rely upon the truth of your being sufficiently adequate, and we, and our brothers, the Six Nations feel ourselves greatly obliged to you for being so kind as to produce them.

You directed us not to attend to what any particular State might say to us on public business, and that the Commissioners of Congress alone were adequate to that purpose.

We, of the Six Nations are fully sensible of the truth of this, and we think that no particular State can have any right to treat separately, but that it belongs only to the United States. In consequence of this, when the Governor of New York sent a message to us to assemble here in order to treat with that State, we requested that it might be a continental treaty, as we conceived that the United States formed one general system, or plan. (A string.)

Then taking up a string, he said:

By this string, brothers, Commissioners, you acquainted us that peace was established between the United States and the King of Great Britain, which the great spirit was called to witness, and then you go on to acquaint us of the boundary line established between the Great King, and the United States, beginning near Halifax, and running thence, etc., (mentioning the boundary, as described in the definitive treaty read to them by the Commissioners,)—This you assured us is your boundary. That all the territory within it, is the property of the United States, and that all the Nations residing thereon must look up to them for protection.

You also assured us that the Great King in settling this peace with the United States, made no mention of us, but left us to treat for ourselves. Certainly the Great King did not look up to that Great Spirit, which he had called as a witness to that treaty, otherwise common justice would not have suffered him to be so inattentive, as to neglect those who had been so just, and faithful to him; and we think that our brothers, the United States did not think of the Great Spirit, otherwise they would have mentioned to the Great King those persons who had been so faithful to him, when they found that he had entirely neglected them.

As the Commissioners have informed us of their powers to treat, I shall now inform them that we are the only persons adequate to treat of and conclude a peace, not only on the part of the Six Nations, but also on that of the Ottawas, Chippewas, Hurons, Potowatamas, Messagasas, Miamis, Delawares, Shawanees, Cherokees, Chicasas, Choctas, and Creeks, and establish a peace in the name of them all.

Whatever conclusion is made at this treaty will be strong, and whatever passes will be communicated throughout all the various tribes.

(A string No. 2.)

Then taking up the black, and white string, he said :

Brothers, Commissioners of the Thirteen United States, by this string you acquainted us that the King of France had ceded to the United States all claim, and title to any lands within their boundary. We have only to thank the Great Spirit for putting it into the mind of the King of France to make this cession, as it is well known that he is extremely saving of his lands, and that the United States are in great want of them.

(Black and white string.)

Then taking up a belt he laid it down, and taking another in his hand said :

Brothers, Commissioners 13 U. S.:

By the belt which I hold in my hand to which this is a reply you informed us that it was indispensably essential to the making of peace, that all the prisoners should be delivered up, and that nothing could be finally done therein, until that should be the case.

We would propose to the Commissioners that for this purpose they should depute persons of their own Nation to go and collect them, lest if it should rest with us the Commissioners might apprehend that they were not all brought, and for this purpose we will give them all the assistance in our power.

As the day is at present so far advanced, we will defer the other matter until to-morrow, when we will answer to your last requisition.

(A belt.)

The Commissioners then requested that they might assemble as early in the morning as possible, and having covered up the Council fire for the night, retired.

October 18th, 1784.

Agreeably to the appointment of yesterday, the Indians assembled in the Council House in order to answer fully to the requisition of the Commissioners respecting a boundary line, and having informed them of their Convention, the Commissioners, (viz.) the Hon. Oliver Wolcott, Richard Butler, and Arthur Lee, Esqs., accompanied by the Hon. Representatives of Pennsylvania, and several military officers, and other gentlemen attended in the Council House, when Capt. O'Bail, a Seneca Chief addressed them thus in continuation of the speech of Capt. A. Hill, of yesterday.

Brothers, Commissioners of the Thirteen United States, and all present of the Six Nations attend.

Yesterday at your Council Fire, many things were replied to, but one principal matter was deferred till to-day when we informed you that we would answer to your last subject.

Brothers, Commissioners of the Thirteen United States.

You addressed yourselves to us of the Six Nations, and requested that we should propose a boundary line between you and us, which might be honorable and satisfactory to you, and which might afford peace to our own minds.

Brothers,—We who are here present of one mind, thank you for your proposals. We conceive that the Great Spirit has prompted you to it, that our minds may be quieted, with which we are well pleased, and for which we again return you our thanks.

Brothers,—Compose your minds, the day is almost too short for an answer to so important a question, and we hope that it will not give you any uneasiness, that we have not yet answered to it, for we Indians love our lands.

We have deliberated long upon this subject, because when we have once made a line of division between us, the lands which are granted will be no longer our property. One matter of great importance to the Seneca Nation, should be brought to your view before we make any final determination. We have long been in the possession of our territory—there are many here who know it—who know that it extended far, and that we had great love to it.

We Senecas are not of difficult minds; we have possessed our territory a long time, and managed our own affairs while the United States, and the King of Great Britain were friends, and during the whole time of the wars to the southward, we never called upon any for assistance.

While the wars were carried on among the Indians, we heard the voice of the Great King speaking to the Mohawks, this was his language: "Why do you of one blood fight thus, one against another."

We were then exhorted by the Mohawks to drop the Hatchet, and to carry it no longer to the westward. We complied with their exhortations, and carried war no longer among those tribes. At this time the King's superintendent removed the council fire that was kindled this way, and our brothers, the Mohawks followed it from one place to another. This person was Col. Guy Johnson, who continued to remove the council fire from place to place, till he at last kindled it at Oswego, and sowed the seeds of confusion into our minds.

The King's superintendent then called us to his council fire, which he had kindled in Canada among the seven tribes, that were then present—*when* he took out what distracted our minds,—he gave us even the hatchet, which when given, the seven tribes of Canada received with great eagerness. When we Senecas received the hatchet, and returned to our country, and convened at the Council fire of the Onondagas, that they might also deliberate with us upon the matter. At our deliberations at that council fire, we agreed to return the hatchet, and to deliver it up to Gen. Schuyler.

We have now related to you the manner in which the Hatchet was taken up. It came from the seven nations in Canada, who prevailed upon us to take it up, so that we could not sufficiently attend to your voice when it called upon us to be neuters, and we of the Seneca Nation must again say that the hatchet was put into our hands, by those seven nations, for we Indians love our own blood.

Brothers, Commissioners of the Thirteen United States:

As we proposed to relate to you, the truth respecting the manner of our entering into the war with the United States, we hope that the relation which we have given will not prove disagreeable to you. It is our wish, that we may never be again in the like situation, for we are sincerely disposed to peace, and friendship, the great business of the present treaty.

Brothers, Representatives of the Thirteen United States:

You have allotted to me the task of drawing a line between us to your satisfaction. I feel the weight of it; I feel for many of my brothers, who will be left destitute of any lands, and have therefore taken care in my deliberations to mark out that line which will give peace to both our minds.

I hope that in our present negotiations, nothing but friendship will prevail, and I am fully sensible that you will never conduct yourselves towards us, as the King of Great Britain has in throwing us away.

Brothers, Commissioners of the Thirteen United States, now hearken:

When we shall have drawn the line between us, whatever shall remain within the boundary allotted to us, shall be our own—it shall continue forever, as the sun which rolls over from day to day.

Brothers, Commissioners of the Thirteen United States:

Let us go on in this business of peace with tenderness, and caution, as it is of the utmost importance, and should what I now say, not meet with a kind reception into your breasts, it will greatly distress me, for I who stand before you am a warrior, and should it not meet your approbation, inform me whilst I am here.

Brothers:

I have several times repeated the words to proceed tenderly in this business, for I regard future generations, and to them I attend while engaged in making peace with you.

Our fires will be a considerable distance from each other, when I come to describe the boundary between us. This will tend to our mutual peace.

I think brothers that we warriors must have a large country to range in, as indeed our subsistence must depend on our having much hunting ground, and as it will also bring in money to you, will tend to our mutual advantage.

Now brothers I am about to draw the line—this we Senecas do of ourselves, as the land belongs solely to us. Let it begin at Tioga, and run thence by a straight line inclining a little to the North to Ohigee, and when it strikes the river Ohio, let it go down its stream to the old boundary, on the Cherokee river. As to the territory Westward of that you must talk respecting it with the Western Nations, towards the sitting of the sun—they must consult of what part they will cede to the United States.

Brothers should you approve of this boundary you will direct your people not to trespass upon our territory, or pass over the line, and should any of our nation attempt to pass over, or intrude upon your lands—let us know it—we will take care to reprimand them, and prevent it.

Brothers:

By this belt you now see my mind. If what I have mentioned be approved of by you, lay it along the Tioga, as I have said, if not I again request you to inform me. (A belt.)

Brothers, Commissioners of the Thirteen United States.

I now introduce to you Thaghnoghtonhare, a chief man of our Nation, who, should you approve of the boundary which I have described, will attend your surveys.

The Commissioners then informed them that they had heard what they had proposed, and would take it into their consideration, and should they not approve of it, when they were prepared to give them an answer, they would let them know. The Council fire was then raked up and the Commissioners retired.

October 20*th*, 1784, 10 *o'clock*, *A. M.*

The Commissioners met. Present:

The Hon. OLIVER WOLCOTT, }
RICHARD BUTLER, } Esqs.
ARTHUR LEE, }

Resolved, That a council be held with the Indians, at 1 o'clock on this day, and notice thereof accordingly given them.

10 o'clock, P. M.

The Commissioners, accompanied as usual, met in the Council house, where being all present and the Indians having convened, the following speech was delivered.

SACHEMS AND WARRIORS.

We are now going to reply to the answer you made to our speech, therefore open your ears and hear.

You informed us that your words were not the words of the Six Nations only, but that you were empowered to speak for all the nations of Indians from north to south. This surprises us. We summoned the Six Nations only to this treaty. That nations not called should send their voices hither is extraordinary. But you have not shown us any authority either in writing or by belts, for your speaking in their names; without showing such authority, your words will pass away like the winds of yesterday that are heard no more.

You have complained that we have refused you a copy of our speech, which might lead you into errors. When we refused it we gave our reason, which was this, that having explained our minds publicly and clearly to you all, and given belts and strings to remind you of every proposition, we did not choose you to be deceived, and our meaning to be misrepresented by the few persons among you who understood English, and might have explained our speech if we had gave a copy of it, as they pleased. We knew there were such persons among you who wished to deceive you, and under the direction of those who led you into the war against us, were planning to mislead you again for their own purposes. We did not wish to put you into the power of such persons, but to clear your eyes and your understandings. We explained at your desire over and over again our speech to you, and the strings and belts which accompanied every part of it.

You next excused your having taken up arms against us, by alleging you were drawn into it by your ancient covenant with the King of England.

Where was your sense of covenants, when after solemnly covenanting with us in 1775, and again as solemnly in 1776, receiving our presents to cover you, to comfort, and to strengthen you—immediately you took up the hatchet against us, and struck us with all your might? Could you have so soon forgotten your recent engagements with us, and yet be influenced by those long past with the King of England.

We asked you; we exhorted you for your own sakes to remain neuter, though as living on the same ground with us, we had a right to expect your assistance against all invaders. You twice solemnly covenanted not to join in the war against us—and without the smallest provocation on our part—you violated your covenants, and spilt our blood.

We should not have called to mind this conduct, had you not attempted to justify it. You must not deceive yourselves, nor hope to deceive us. To justify errors may lead to a recommission of them, and it will be more safe and honorable to repent of, than to palliate, a conduct which though mischievous to us has been fatal to you, and has left you at our mercy.

Again you are mistaken in supposing that having been excluded from the United States and the King of Great Britain, you are become a free and independent nation, and may make what terms you please. It is not so. You are a subdued people; you have been overcome in a war which you entered into with us, not only without provocation, but in violation of most sacred obligations. The great spirit who is at the same time the judge and avenger of perfidy, has given us victory over all our enemies. We are at peace with all but *you; you* now stand out *alone* against our *whole force.*

When we offer you peace on moderate terms, we do it in magnanimity and mercy. If you do not accept it now, you are not to expect a repetition of such offers. Consider well, therefore, your situation and *ours.*—Do not suffer yourselves to be again deceived so as to raise our arm against you. You feel the sad effects of having refused this counsel before—beware how you do it again.

Compassionating your situation, we endeavored to make the terms on which you were to be admitted into the peace, and protection of the United States, appear to spring from your own contrition for what you had done, rather than from a necessity imposed by us. We therefore proposed to you to deliver up the prisoners, and to propose a boundary line, such as it became the United States to agree to.

On neither of these points have you given us the smallest satisfaction. You propose we should deputize people of our own nation to go and collect the prisoners. This you know from experience is impracticable, that it would only provoke insults, and perhaps the murder of such deputation, by the persons who hold our fellow citizens in bondage. You only can collect them, you only, ought to collect them, you must collect and deliver them up. Our words are strong, and we mean you should feel them. With regard to the boundary line you have proposed, the lands to the North West of it have almost all been sold already to Onas; and all the lands Southwest of it to the Cherokee river was sold by you in the year 1768, at this place, and is all granted and settled by the white people.

We shall now, therefore declare to you the condition, on which alone you can be received into the peace and protection of the United States. The conditions are these:

The United States of America will give peace to the Senecas, Mohawks, Onondagas, and Cayugas, and receive them into their protection upon the following conditions.

ARTICLE 1st. Six hostages shall be immediately delivered to the Commissioners by the said nations, to remain in possession of the United States, till all the prisoners white and black, which were taken by the said Senecas, Mohawks, Onondagas, and Cayugas, or by any of them in the late war from amongst the citizens of the United States shall be delivered up.

ARTICLE 2. The Oneida, and Tuscarora nations shall be secured in the possession of the lands on which they are settled.

ARTICLE 3. A line shall be drawn, beginning at the mouth of a creek about four miles East of Niagara, called Oyonwagea, or Johnston's landing place, on the Lake named by the Indians Oswego, and by us Ontario, from thence Southerly in a direction always four miles East of the Carrying place between Lakes Erie, and Ontario, to the mouth of the Tehoseron, or Buffalo Creek, on Lake Erie, thence South to the North Boundary of the State of Pennsylvania, thence West to the end of the said North Boundary, thence South along the West Boundary of the said State to the river Ohio.

The said line from the mouth of the Oyonwagea to the Ohio, shall be the Western Boundary of the lands of the Six Nations, so that the Six Nations shall, and do yield to the United States all claim to the country West of said Boundary, and then they shall be secured in the peaceful possession of the lands East and North of the same, reserving only six miles square round the Fort of Oswego to the United States for the support of the same.

ARTICLE 4. The Commissioners of the United States in consideration of the present circumstances of the Six Nations, and in execution of the humane and liberal views of the United States upon the signing of the above articles will order goods to be delivered to the Six Nations for their use and comfort.

We shall make a few remarks on these articles, tho' the moderation and equity of them are manifest.

1st. It is more than six months since you were informed by General Schuyler, in the name of Congress, that you must deliver up all the prisoners before peace could be granted you. Our message gave you the same information, yet you have not delivered them up.

As the delivery of them is indispensable, so you have rendered hostages necessary by your delay.

2d. It does not become the United States to forget those nations who preserved their faith to them, and adhered to their cause, those, therefore must be secured in the full and free enjoyment of those possessions.

3d. The line proposed, leaves as extensive a country to the remaining four nations, as they can in reason desire, and more than, from their conduct in the war, they could expect.

The King of Great Britain ceded to the United States *the whole*, by the right of conquest they might *claim the whole.* Yet they have taken but a small part, compared with their numbers and their wants. Their warriors must be provided for. Compensation must be made for the blood and treasures which they have expended in the war. The great increase of their people, renders more lands essential to their subsistence. It is therefore necessary that such a boundary line should be settled, as will make effectual provisions for these demands, and prevent any future cause of difference and dispute.

4th. It ought to be felt by you as a signal proof of the magnanimity of the United States, that tho' the present distresses of most of the Six Nations, have been incurred by their own fault in fighting against them. Yet they have determined to minister such relief to them as is at present in their power.

These are the terms on which you may obtain perpetual peace with the United States, and enjoy their protection.

You must be sensible that these are blessings, which can not be purchased at too high a price. Be wise, and answer us accordingly.

To which Capt. O'Bail replied:

Brothers, Commissioners of the Thirteen United States:

You have this day declared your minds to us fully, and without disguise. We thank you for it; this is acting like men, for thus men speak. We will take what you have said into our most serious consideration, and when we shall have prepared ourselves to answer to what you have proposed, you shall hear our voice.

After the usual ceremonies were over the Commissioners ordered that the Council fire should be raked up, and retired from the Council house.

October 21, 1784.

The Indians having assembled in the Council house, informed the Commissioners that they were prepared to answer to what they had proposed to them in the speech of the 20th; accordingly the Commissioners met in the Council house, where were present the Hon. Oliver Wolcott, Richard Butler, and Arthur Lee, Esqs., accompanied, as usual by the Hon. Representatives of the State Pennsylvania, and several other gentlemen. Captain Aaron Hill addressed the Commissioners in the following manner:

Brothers, Commissioners of the Thirteen United States, attend:

You yesterday replied to the last speech which we made to you in answer to certain matters which you proposed for our consideration.

We are surprised that you misunderstood what we said, for the speech of our brothers, plainly shows that they did not understand our meaning. I will now therefore relate the eight principal articles, which were contained in our speech.

Brothers:

Upon your informing us that this Council fire was kindled for the purpose of making peace, we replied that we loved peace, that our minds were thick, firm, and determined, that we were resolved that the peace then to be made should be so strongly founded that no person should ever have it in their power to molest it.

We likewise assured you that we were not trifling, that we were relieved from our covenant with the Great King, and consequently could establish peace upon a firm basis. That we would not be wavering, that our minds were long and enduring, and that in case a war should break out between you, and the King of Great Britain, we should have it in our power to assist you, or not, if we were asked, and even if not called upon, we should still be able, for that as free and independent people we might act in that case as we might think proper, and further that if a war should break out between the U. States, and the King of Great Britain, if you desired, we would sit still, and remain neuter, and likewise we informed you that the treaty now to be made should be held up forever before us, and should conduct us in future.

You likewise informed us that as we did not produce any written proofs, or belts for our speaking in the name of those Western Tribes, our words would pass away without effect. We did not bring any proofs with us, but left them at the Council fire, which is now burning among our brothers the Shawnees, on the river Miami.

Here ends our volume of the Journal.

SPEECH OF LAFAYETTE.

The following is a copy of the speech which we referred to in the introduction to the proceedings at Fort Stanwix in 1784. It is truly emphatic, and eloquent, and we think there is abundant evidence that it is the speech of *Kayenlaa*, mentioned in the minutes of the conference at that place.

But even were we mistaken in that opinion, it is well worthy of preservation for its own striking merits, and as a memento of its great and esteemed author:

ADDRESS OF LAFAYETTE.

In meeting my children, I give thanks to heaven, which has conducted me to this place of peace, where you smoke together the pipe of friendship.

If you remember the voice of Kayenlaa, call to mind also his advices, and the belts, which he has often sent you. I come to thank the faithful children, the Sachems, the Warriors, and such as have been my messengers, and if paternal memory did not sooner forget *ill*, than *good*, I might be disposed to furnish those, who in opening their ears, have shut their hearts, who blindly taking up the hatchet, have been in danger of striking their own fathers.

That the American cause is just, I formerly told you, that it is the cause of humanity, that it is your cause in particular, that you ought at least to reman neutral, and that the brave Americans would defend, both their liberty, and yours, that your fathers, the French, would take them by the hand, that the white birds would cover the shores, that the great Onondio, like the sun, would dispel the clouds which surrounded you, and that the adverse projects would vanish like a sinking fog.

Not to listen to Kayenlaa was the advice given you from another quarter, but you were also told that the Northern army would enter Boston in triumph, that the Southern would conquer Virginia, that the great chief Warrior Washington, at the head of your fathers, and your brothers would be forced to abandon the country. Those who put their hand before *your* eyes, have not failed to open *their own*. Peace has ensued—you know the conditions of it, and I shall do a favor to some of you, by forbearing through pity a repetition of them.

My predictions have been fulfilled. Open your ears to the new advice of your father, and let my voice be heard among all the nations.

What have you ever gained my children? What have you not lost in European quarrels?

Be more wise than the white men—keep peace among yourselves, and since the great Council of the United States is, in their goodness, disposed to treat with you, profit of those good dispositions. Forget not that the Americans are the intimate friends of your fathers, the French. This alliance is as durable, as it has been successful. The great Onondio has given forever his hand to your brothers, who offer you theirs, and by this means we shall form a salutary chain. To satisfy yourselves of it, trade with the Americans, with those of your fathers, who may cross the great Lake. The manufactures of France are known to you, and your experience will lead you to prefer them. They will be to you a token of the alliance.

In selling your lands, do not consult the keg of rum, and give them away to the first adventurer, but let the American chiefs, and yours united around the fire, settle on reasonable terms.

At present my children, you know, that if some have a title to the acknowledgments of Congress, there are many whose only resource is in their clemency, and whose passed faults call for reparations.

If you hearken well, my children, I have said enough to you. Repeat my words, one to another.

Whilst on the other side of the great Lakes, I shall hear of you with pleasure, and until we shall again smoke our pipes together, and be together under the same huts, I wish you good health, successful huntings, union, and plenty, and the fulfillment of all dreams, which promise you happiness. (True translation,)

LA FAYETTE.

On the 23d of October, 1784, the day after the signing of the Treaty with the U. S. Commissioners, the Six Nations ceded to the Commonwealth the residue of their lands within our limits. By this cession the title of those Indians to the lands across the Allegheny river was extinguished.

The Pennsylvania Commissioners, who had attended at Fort Stanwix in October, 1784, proceeded soon after to Fort M'Intosh, now Beaver, to meet the Delaware and Wyandott Indians. At that place those Indians executed a deed, on the 21st of January, 1785, conveying to this commonwealth the same lands which had previously been conveyed by the Six Nations.

Sixty three years have, therefore, almost elapsed since white settlements in that region became legal, and what a wonderful change has been worked in that time in the appearance of the country. A great State Canal, and State Penitentiary, extensive manufacturing establishments, and splendid private residences are now the substitutes for Indian Wigwams; and where the Indian canoes formerly plied, bridges, aqueducts, and steamers now exist.

THE LAKE ERIE TRACT.

While on the matter of cessions by the Indians, we may as well conclude that subject by stating that on the 3d of October, 1788, an act of Assembly was passed entitled, an act to authorize the supreme executive council to draw on the state treasurer for a sum of money, for defraying the expense of purchasing of the Indians, lands on lake Erie, (chapter 1355.) By which act a sum of £1200 was granted to purchase the Indian rights, in the lake Erie tract, bargained to be sold by the United States to Pennsylvania, and a further grant was added for the same purpose, by an act of the 28th of September, 1789, (chap. 1439.)

The Indian cession of the Presque Isle lands is dated January 9th, 1789, and is in these words:—"The signing chiefs do acknowledge the right of soil, and jurisdiction to, and over that tract of country bounded on the south by the north line of the State of Pennsylvania, on the east by the west boundary of the State of New York, agreeable to the cession of that State and Massachusetts to the United States, and on the north by the margin of lake Erie, including Presque Isle; and all the bays and harbors along the margin of said lake Erie, from the west boundary of Pennsylvania, to where the west boundary of the State of New York may cross or intersect the south margin of the said lake Erie, to be vested in the said State of Pennsylvania, agreeable to an act of Congress dated the 6th of June last, (1788.)

The said chiefs agree, that the said State of Pennsylvania shall and may, at any time they think proper, survey, dispose of and settle, all that part of the aforesaid country lying and being west of a line running along the middle of the Conowago river, from its confluence with the Allegheny river into the Chadochque lake, thence along the middle of the said lake to the north end of the same, thence a meridian line from the north end of the said lake to the margin or shore of lake Erie."

In a note to Col. Stone's Life of Joseph Brant, we find the following notice of a visit to this country by a party of Spaniards so long ago as 1669. The descendants of the countrymen of Pizarro, Cortez, and De Soto, were truly a roving, enterprising, restless people, yet this journey of twenty three Spaniards from Louisiana up the Mississippi, Ohio, and Allegheny rivers, and then by land to the very heart of the State of N. York, seems almost incredible. But we do not feel authorized to pass decisive judgment against its correctness or to deprive our readers of an opportunity of perusing a most interesting narrative. We therefore insert the note, so that every reader may examine and decide for himself.

The following brief but very interesting account of a French Colony, located in the town of Pompey, in the year 1666, is taken from "A Memoir on the Antiquities of the Western parts of the State of New York," by De Witt Clinton.

After informing us that the statement is collected partially from the Sachems of the Six Nations, and partly from a manuscript journal of one of the French Jesuits, he proceeds to remark:

"From the Jesuits' journal it appears, that in the year 1666, at the request of Karakontie, an Onondaga Chieftain, a French Colony was directed to repair to his village, for the purpose of teaching the Indian arts and sciences, and to endeavor, if practicable, to civilize, and christianize them.

"We learn from the Sachems, that at this time the Indians had a fort, a short distance above the village of Jamesville, on the banks of a small stream near; a little above which, it seems, the chieftain, Karakontie would have his new friends *sit down*. Accordingly they repaired thither and commenced their labors, which being greatly aided by the savages, a few months only were necessary to the building of a small village.

"This little colony remained for three years in a very peaceable and flourishing situation, during which time much addition was made to the establishment, and, among others, a small chapel, in which the Jesuit used to collect the barbarians, and perform the rites and ceremonies of his church.

"But the dire circumstance which was to bury this colony in oblivion and keep their history in secret, was yet to come. About this time (1669,) a party of Spaniards, consisting of twenty three persons, arrived at the village, having for guides some of the Iroquois, who had been taken captive by the Southern tribes. It appears evident that this party, came up the Mississippi, as it has been ascertained that they passed Pittsburgh, and on to Olean Point; where, leaving their canoes, they travelled by land. They had been informed by some of the Southern tribes that there was a lake at the north of them, whose bottom was covered with a substance shining and white,* and which they took, from the Indians'

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* The salt chrystallizes at the present time on the grass, and upon the naked earth in the immediate vicinity of the springs, though the water of the lake is fresh.

Extract of a [illegible] from [illegible] dated
[illegible] 1784

[illegible] [illegible] to [illegible] Brant [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Stanwix, [illegible] Aaron [illegible] others of [illegible] consequence, [illegible] a few of the [illegible], [illegible] &c, set out to meet the Commissioners there. Previous to [illegible] going away Aaron solemnly promised to acquaint me with every interesting particular that should happen at the treaty. [illegible] [illegible] without any account [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] at length Mr. Bruce, Sutler for the troops, [illegible] from New York ([illegible]) and Stanwix [illegible] he saw Aaron, who anxiously sought an opportunity of speaking to him in private, which he with much difficulty found, as the Commissioners watched them so narrowly [illegible] there were no instance of their speaking to any but themselves, that it was dangerous to be seen in conversation with an Indian. [illegible] Aaron told B. to inform me that he could not write to me and to assure [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] I should not think hard of whatever [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] as they were obliged to comply with whatever the Commissioners dictated. that in short they were [illegible] Prisoners and moreover that he with five others were to remain as hostages, until the Prisoners among the Indians should be delivered up, he proceeded [illegible] when one of the Commissioners took him away [illegible] since that time [illegible] Aaron and [illegible] [illegible], in [illegible] Fort [illegible] where they tell [illegible] the treaty [illegible] [illegible]; the few Indians there have

signed

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[illegible] must [illegible] country to
[illegible] near the Water
[illegible]
[illegible] would [illegible]
[illegible] the [illegible]
[illegible] that they have made a
[illegible] it. [illegible] conference
[illegible] that they would
[illegible]
[illegible] that
[illegible]
[illegible] that [illegible] could
[illegible] that they
[illegible] their sentiments
[illegible]
[illegible] the [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
Therefore [illegible] that the [illegible] have [illegible]
[illegible] the [illegible] that [illegible] with the
[illegible]
[illegible] the particulars [illegible]
[illegible] which were [illegible]
[illegible] look on
[illegible]
[illegible] most [illegible]

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his Family set off for Fort Stanwix. They have lately frequent Councils at [illegible], where some of their old Men proposed a Neutrality which incensed the Warriors to such a degree that they threatened them with Death if they should urge it again, and declared they would die on their Lands or faithfully adhere to the King. Two days ago two of the principal [illegible] Chiefs begged to speak with me in private, when they told me a Sachem just come from the Senecas communicated to them with the most earnest injunction to secrecy that after the Treaty was finished with the Commissioners (and French General [illegible] the Marquis de La Fayette) called the Sachems of the different Nations together in the most friendly manner, not admitting a single American to be present, when he addressed them in the name of the Great King his master, telling them that he was at Peace with them and did not require any of their Lands nor to treat them as Prisoners but only to inform them that at the [illegible] Father [illegible] some time past [illegible] had been conquered by his [illegible] in [illegible] that [illegible] since [illegible] undertaken [illegible] he was in a condition to renew his former Engagements with them and desired to treat them with that Kindness and friendship which in former times contributed so much to their happiness, and which he [illegible] they are not [illegible]; [illegible] were called together in the name of the Great King of France [illegible] taking [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] with [illegible] their former friendship [illegible] with it [illegible] under [illegible] Belt of Wampum. Which

they

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] at Fort [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] made with the Americans—

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] in the

[illegible]

[illegible] that

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] or which

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] only [illegible] will

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Montreal 27th Sept. 1784

Dear Sir

In inclosing you a letter which I lately received from Joseph Brant at Fort Stanwix I have an opportunity of returning you many thanks for the favor you some time ago obtain'd for the family of Loyalists I had interceded for, and they are as well as myself very sensible of our obligation to you—

You will perceive by what Joseph writes me and what will be further communicated to His Excellency by Sir John Johnson that the Indians are in treaty with the American States — When Captain Brant left Niagara he was only empowered to acquaint Govr. Clinton that that the upper country Indians would not consent to hold a treaty with the Americans any where else but at Niagara or at some of the neighbouring Indian Villages — & I wrote at the request of Joseph a letter in his name (I mean the Copy for him to sign as he said he could not perhaps do it correctly himself) in that letter

he informed Govr. Clinton that in order to avoi
any unnecessary trouble or misconception he
wished to apprize the Govr. that he and the Chiefs
that were going along with him were not
invested with powers from the Nations to
conclude a Peace with the Americans but
that they were charged with a Message
preparatory to that business — However by
a letter from Joseph since he spoke with
Govr. Clinton he desires several of the Chiefs
from the different Nations ~~ought~~ would go
down immediately to meet Deputies from
the Congress that were waiting for them a
Fort Stanwix and expressing very high satisfa
at the reception they had met with and th
Prospect they had of getting terms to their
wishes and far beyond their expectation

I dissuaded Joseph very much
from going down at all, and I gave
him such advice as I thought most fo
our interest & his - and I was very happ
to learn from him that you had given hi
the same Council — I know very favoura

offers shall be made to him and his family but he declared nothing of that nature would bias him & I hope it will not. He desired I would only send you the Copy of Mr Hentons letter but I send his letter wholly — I'm in much haste

All your friends above were well & mindful of You

I am with much truth & regard

Dear Sir

Your most humble Servt.

W. Trent

From 1784.

Captn. Alexr. Fraser

27th. Septr. Recd. 29 —

Account of what passed
at sundry Councils
held at Fort Stanwix
with the Commissioners
of the 13 united States
& the Marquis de la
Fayette in 1784-

(Note- See Vol 15-)

*

Adam Hoops —

Received from Colonel Hoops 23d February 1785

[illegible]

~~Sir~~ Captain Brants Account of What passed at Fort Stanwix Prior ~~before~~ to the Treaty in October 1784.

I thought its my duty to acquaint you immedia with the whole account Which my two friends brought from Fort stanwix of what was past between the five nations and the Commissioners of Congress there was three of them which was appointed by Congress and a number other Gentlemen with them from different States & French General also wa there. Very few the five nations was there — October the 10th the council was opened, Butler ~~Sspooke~~ one of the commissioners spoke and said.

Brothers We meet you this day at this council fire place kindled by us, ~~and~~ we are glad to see you and safe arrived here in a good state of health. you the Mohocks, onondagas, Cayogas & Sinekes, we now clear your Eyes and Ears, that you may see and understand perfectly of what we ~~have~~ are going to say to you. When we understood that there was a council to be held here by the Governor of N, york with you; we thought it was a good opportunity for us to come here also, to meet you whilts you Assembled yourselves together, and we did this to ~~safe~~ save you the trouble of ~~calleng you~~ coming here the second time for the journey is long for you, though our first intentions was to have had the councils at Niagara, or Detroit, but as we say since you was at this place we took the opportunity to come here to talk with you, as our intentio are good; Than produced a large paper printed and a large seal to it, and said this writin you see here contains the words of the peace Which was settled between the King and the Americans, and likewise mantion'd the boundry lines therein fixt, which takes in most all the Indian country and more over said, the King did not ~~chused~~ Chose to say a word about the Indians when he was setting this peace with the Americans; the King did as it where tread upon the Indians, did not see where they were, so it was left intirely to the management of congress to settle all the affairs with in ~~that~~ the limits which the King ~~gaved~~ has given to them — for This reason it becomes necessary for us to meet you and settle matters and to remove all the differents which now lies between you and us, by reason of the late war with the King, He also said we are the proper people to treat with you, because we are appointed by Congress to transact business with all the Indian nations, and, power was given for that purpose. if any one State should be calling councils with the Indi it is highly improper to do so — Than the Speake turn'd about towards the Onidas, & Tascaroras, and Caghnawagas, who was setting together, and said

Brothers you Onidas Tascaroras, & Caghnawagas you are our friends, therefore we have nothing ~~very~~ particular to say to you on this occasion, only to bid you well come to this council fire, and des you to set still and look on; when we shall be speaking to then nations who was fighting again us; Again he turn'd about to the five nations and said we the commissioners wishes to settle with you just & Equitable terms, both parties should be satisfied & boundary lines should be fixt between you & us, which will also prevent future disputes — All the country which lies ~~[illegible]~~ now with in the limits of congress, formly yours; it is still yours, for we do not claim, any part of your lands. (Except the posts). if we should have any of your lands we mean to pay you for it — As we have mantion'd to you before that we wish to remove all the differentes ~~[illegible]~~ which lies between you & us and to lay them a side, ~~it is~~ our intentions of coming here is to be friends with you again, but do what you think is best for yourselves; if in case you have the same minds as we ~~are~~ have we shall than go on well & settle everything agreeably — Again the Speaker said we have two principal things to tell you, that is we wanted you should give up all the prisoners of our people & let them have their liberty, which still remains among you, and also the four Indians of ours who ~~was~~ were taken by you the year seventy nine, let them have their freedom, and likewise some negros ~~like~~ are among you. the second thing, we wanted to have a part of your lands to pay our troops with, which we owe to them and mean to pay you for it, if you let us have it we dont mean to point out any particular spot ~~&~~ or the quantity we would ~~leaved~~ leave it to yourselves, where you will please to give it to us and the quantity of it — Now if you will agree with these two things we require, every thing, difficulty & differences that now lies be tween us will than be removed and buried, & we will be as great friends as we ever have ~~done~~ been

this is all what we have to say to you at present
however when you give us an answer ~~of~~ to this,
we shall say little more to you, which still remains
in our minds — My friends came off about
this time, before the five nations had time to give
an answer, though every thing was fixt how to
speak to the commissioners, or of the different subjects
they intend to agree and give part of their lands.
near Susquahanna river, from there to East side
the Ohio river the old boundry line, the five
nation thinks, the next thing the commissioners
will ask them ~~be~~ will be to become their allies, which thing is not
very Easy agreed upon — The french General
also spooke, and said children I am happy
to see you here and bid you well come to
this place &c. I was at the sea side when I hear
you ~~was~~ were to be assembled here, I came directly up here
purpose to see you and pay my respects to you
all; I am ~~[illegible]~~ happy to see you about making
peace & friends, with the americans who are my
friends and as it where one people, there is three
of us ~~fram~~ firmly united together, french americans, &
Spaniards, therefore I hope you will now be
true friends to them & be happy — He more over sai
if you the five nation ~~took~~ had taken my advice the begining
of the late war — you would ~~never~~ not have had any troub
you remember I told you that the war did not
concern you, because you did not know the quarrel.
between the King & the americans, in short
I told you that you had no business with it, and that the Americans
was also in right, for which reason I took their

part and joind them a gainst the English King.
so all the trouble you have mett with in the late
war is your own ~~falts~~ faults — However I would be glad
~~if any ti~~ if you would acquaint me if any thing
should happen ~~you and distresst~~ to distress you for I should be
all ways ready to attend to your cause ———

The five nations answer'd him very little after
he ~~spooke~~ spoke they return'd thanks to him for his
salutations to them & paid him the same
compliments; they told him father we understood =
all ~~what~~ that you say, to us and know all very well
and remember perfectly well every thing. it is
true we have mett with some troubles owing to the
war ~~to before~~, father we could not help'd of joining
the ~~King~~ King at the begining of the war owing intirely to the old
friendship we always had with him ~~from~~ for many years,
you must know, we used to be together when we
fought the french, you have been all ways Enemies
to the English, but we have all a long been friends to them,
so it ~~is~~ was naturel Enough for us to join the King. —
but we think it is, you that had no business to join
the Americans, be cause you ~~they~~ have been all ways
Enemies to them untill now. —

Substance
what paſsed in the
Congreſs between
the Indians & the
American States at
Fort Stanwix by
Captn. Joseph Brant

1784

Super Intendant General & Inspector
Generals Office Montreal 26th May
1793

All the Entries made in this Book from folio 1 to 205 Inclusive are from authentic Records and Documents in this Office

Joseph Chew
Secy. Indian Affairs

Captain Brants Account of what paſsed at Fort S
Prior to the Treaty in October 1784.

I thought it my duty to Acquaint you im -tely with the whole Acount which my two friends brought from Fort Stanwix of what was past between the five Nations and the Commiſsioners of Congreſs. there was three of them which was appointed by Congreſs and a number of other Gentlemen with them from different States and a French General also was there, Very few of the five Nations was there — October 10th the Council was opened Butler one of the Commiſsioners Spoke and Said.

Brothers

We meet you this day at this Council fire place Kindle'd by us, we are glad to see you Safe Arrived here in a good State of health. you the Mohawks, Onondagas, Cayugas and Senecas, we now Clear your Eyes and Ears, that you may See and understand perfectly of what we are going to Say to you. When we understood that there was a Council to be held here by the Governor of New York with you; we thought it was a good opportunity for us to come here also, to meet you whilst you Aſsembled yourselves together, and we did this to save you the trouble of coming here the Second time for the Journey is long for you, though our first

Intentions was to have had the Council at Niagara or Detrait, but as we say Since you was at this place we took the opportunity to come here to talk with you, as our intentions are good; Then produced a large paper printed and large Seal to it, and Said this writing you see here contains the words of the peace which was Settled between the King and the Americans, and — likewise mentioned the boundary lines there in fixt, which takes in most all the Indian Country and — more over Said, the king did not Chuse to say a word about the Indians when he was Settling the peace with the Americans; The King did as it where turn upon the Indians, and did not See where they were, so it was left intirely to the management of Congreſs to Settle all the Affairs within the limits which the King had Given to them — for this reason it becomes neceſsary for us to meet you and Settle matters and to remove all the Differences which now lies between you and us, by reason of the late war with the King, He also Said we are the proper people to treat with you, because we are appointed by Congreſs to transact buſineſs with all the Indian Nations, and power Given was for that purpose If any one State Should be Calling councils with the Indians it is highly improper to do so — Then the Speaker turned about towards the Oneidas, Tascaroras, and Caughnawagas, who was Setting together, and Said

Brothers,

You Oneidas, Tascaroras, & Caughnawagas

You are our friends, therefore we have Nothing —

Particular to say to you on this Occasion, only
you welcome to this Council fire, and Des
to Set Still and look on, when we shall be
to these Nations who was fighting against us; by
he turned about to the five Nations and Said, we
the Commissioners wishes to Settle with you Just and
Equitable terms, both parties Should be Satisfied and
boundary lines Should be fixt between you & us,
which will also prevent future Disputes — All the
Country which lies now within the limits of Congreſs
formerly yours; it is Still yours, for we do not Claim
any part of your lands, (Except the posts) - if we
Should have any of your land we mean to pay
you for it, — As we have mentioned to you before that
we wish to remove all the Differences which lies between
you and us and to lay them a side our Intentions
of coming here is to be friends with you again, but
do what you think best for yourselves; if in case you
have the Same minds that we have, we Shall
then go on well and Settle every thing Agreeably. =

Again the Speaker Said we have two principal
things to tell you, that is we wanted you Should give
up all the prisoners of our people and let them have
their Liberty, which Still remains among you, and
also the four Indians of ours who were taken by you
the year Seventy nine let them have their freedom,
and likewise Some Negroes are among you, The Second
thing we wanted to have a part of your Lands to pay
our troops with, which we owe to them and mean to

Pay you for it, If you let us have it we dont mea
to point out any particular Spot or the Quantity,
we would Leave that to yourselves, where you will
please to give it to us and the Quantity of it —
Now if you will agree with these two thing
we require, Every thing, difficult and difference that
now lies between us will then be removed and burie
and we will be as great friends as we ever have been
this is all what we have to say to you at present —
However when you give us an answer to this we Sha
Say a little more to you, which Still remains in ou
minds —— My friends came off about this time,
before the five Nations had time to give an Answer,
though every thing was fixt how to Speak to the
Commiſsioners on the different Subjects. they inten
to agree and give part of their Lands near the Susquaha
river, from there to the East Side of the Ohio river, the
Old Boundary Line; The five Nations thinks the next
the Commiſsioners will ask them will be to become
their Allies, which thing is not very Easy agreed upo
The french General also spoke, and Said, Children,
I am happy to see you here and bid you welcome
to this place &c: I was at the Sea Side when I heard
you were to be Aſsembled here, I came directly up
here on purpose to See you and pay my respects to
you all; I am happy to See you about making pe
and friends with the Americans who are my frien
and as it where one people; there is three of us

firmly United together, French, Americans, and therefore I hope you will now be true friends and be happy — He more over Said if you the Nations had taken my advice the beginning of the War — you would not have had any trouble, you remember I told you that the war did not concern you, because you did not Know the Quarrel, between the King and the Americans. In Short I told you that you had no business with it, and that the Americans was also in right for which reason I took their part and Joined them against the English King, so all the trouble you have met with in the Late War is your own Faults — However I would be glad if you would acquaint me if any thing Should happen to Distress you for I Should be allways ready to Attend to your Cause —— The five Nations Answered him very little after he Spoke they returned thanks to him for his Salulations to them and paid him the Same Compliments; they told him, father we Understood all that you Said to us and Know all very well and remember perfectly well every thing. it is true we have met with Some troubles owing to the war. Father we could not help Joining the King at the beginning of the war owing intirely to the old Friendship we always had with him for many years you must know, we used to be together when we fought the french, you have been always Enemies to the English, but we have all along been friends to them so it was Natural Enough for us to Join the King; but we think it, you that had no busineſs to Join the Americans, because you have been always Enemies to them untill now —

Treaty at Fort Stawix 22d. October 1784

Articles of a Treaty Concluded at Fort Stanwix on the 22d. day of October 1784 between Oliver Walcott Richard Butler, and Arthur Lee Commiſsioners — Plenipotentiary from the United States of America in Congreſs aſsembled on the one part and the Sachems & Warriors of the Six Nations on the other.

The United States will Give peace to the Mohawks, Onondagas, Cayugas, and Senecas, and Receive them into their protection upon th following Conditions. ~ —

Article 1st. Six Hostages shall be immediately deliv to the Commiſsioners by the Said Nations to rema in poſseſsion of the United States untill all the prisoners white and Black, which were taken by the Said Mohawks, Onondagas, Cayugas, and Sene or any of them in the late War from among the Citizens of the United States Shall be delivered u

2d. The Oneida & Tuscarora Nations Shall be Secured in th poſseſsion of the Lands on which they are Settled —

3. A Line shall be drawn beginning at the Mou
Creek four Miles East of Niagara called Oyon
Johnsons Landing Place, upon the Lake nam
Indians Oswego and by us Ontario, from thence So
in a Direction always four miles East of the Carry
place between Lakes Erie and Ontario to the Mouth
of Tehoseroran or Buffaloe Creek on Lake Erie thence
South to the North boundary of the State of Pensylvania
thence West to the end of the Said North boundary
thence South along the West boundary of the said
State to the River Ohio

The said line from the Mouth of Oyouaeya to the Ohio shall be the Western Boundary of the Lands of the Six Nations, so that the Six Nations shall & do yield to the United States all Claim to the Country west of the said boundary and then they shall be secured in the possession of the Lands East & North of the Same; reserving only Six Miles square round the fort of Oswego to the United States for the Support of the Same

4th The Commissioners of the United States in Consideration of the present Circumstances of the Six Nations and in Execution of the Humane and Liberal Views of the United States upon the Signing the Above four Articles will order Goods to be delivered to the Six Nations for their use and Comfort

Carried Over

(Sign'd)

Oliver Wolcott
Richard Butler
Arthur Lee —

Witnesses
Saml. Jo. Atlee
Wm. Maclay
Franl. Johnston
Pen.a Comm.rs

Aaron Hill
Alexr. Campbell
Saml. Kirkland Miss.y
James Deane
Saml. Montgomery
Derick Lane Capt.
John Mercer Lieut.
William Pennington Lt.
Mahlon Hord Ens.
Hugh Peebles —

(Sign'd)

Onondagas
Ohedarighton
Headaronayon

Senecas
Tayagoneandageghti
Tehowarghriyage

Oneidas
Otyadonenghti
Dayahari

Cayuga
Oraghgwareatogan

Tuscaroras
Ononghsawenghti
Tharondagurgon

Seneca Abeal
Kayenthoghki

Mohawks
Oniswentahongi
Tuwighnetogan

Let the Ears of ~~T~~ Tekayahedat be opened to rece
our words, He is a Chief man from Onondaga our

the Answer from a Mohawk Chief

to the Marquis De Laffayette —

Let the ~~Ears~~ of the great ~~Man~~ Tekayukeare of the French King ~~Chief Man~~ be opened to the Words of your father ~~Kayenlaa~~ —

Father we have heard your voice, and we Rejoice that you are Come to visit your Children and to give them Just and necessary admonition — You have informed us that we have been done wrong in ~~shutting our hearts against~~ ~~in~~ opening our Ears to the advices of Evil men & shutting our hearts against ~~the~~ your Counsels ~~for~~ ~~that we have been in Danger by wrongfully~~

Tree — Father — We Of the Mohawk Tribe have greatly departed from the right way — We know that we have long been lost — but ~~we~~ hope that we are again returning — and that you will once more have in us, good & Faithful Children — Truly are we glad Father to hear your voice among us, which ~~instead~~ without wounding injuring our hearts has brought to us ~~the~~ great comfort — I believe if the great Spirit had directed you, and had conducted you to this place of Peace, where you may ~~can~~ smoke ~~the~~ pipe of friendship ~~peace~~, with your returning Children —

377 Father Kayenlaa, respecting our situation you have also spoken truly, but ~~that~~ we trust that the ~~the~~ same Great Being, who has hitherto protected us, will also

restore us to the right path — ~~Father~~ & it is our hope that our Transgressions may be forgotten and that we may be all Joined together in one Cause and be unanimous in all our undertakings —

Father Kayenlaa — We are well satisfied that every word which you have Spoken to us is the word of Truth, and experience has taught us that all which you have foretold concerning us is come to pass —

— Father yr Words & yr Speech seem all of them to breathe the Spirit of peace which ~~that~~ ~~what~~ it is our great and Only Object, and ~~that~~ is the Object which has drawn ~~brought~~ us hither —

Father Kayenlaa it is an Ancient, and an Established rule that Children shd be Obedient to their Father and that to correct & punish ~~in this~~ them when they err from the right way is the Fathers prerogative — this we know. & this we have Certainly deserved, but as we before said, we trust that the great Spirit ~~from~~ above will so dispose & cleanse our Hearts that you will have reason to rejoice and be glad [illegible] restoring the forfeited lives of your Children.

~~and in~~ Father you Cautioned us against consulting strong Liquor in the disposal of our Lands — This salutary advice has stand ~~[illegible] in the greatest~~. We greatly need it for from that Quarter ~~arises~~ springs the Fountain of all our Troubles & Misfortunes — and it is

wish that no inconveniencies may arise there from in
this gt. Council of Peace—

Father We remember the words which
you spoke to us at your first meeting—
now 7 Years past, and We find that nothing
which you [illegible] then told us has fallen
out otherwise—No Father! we see that all is true
which makes us to rejoice at present to see
you that We may smoke undisturbed the
pipe of Peace & Friendship—

Again Father you obserd. that the Alli=
ance between the King of France & America
was an indissoluble chain not to be broken
and shd any doubt it in future let them enter your ships— wade
the great Lakes & see for themselves—

Father Your Words which you have this day spoken shall be published
throughout the Six Nations—as they ~~intend~~ tend to
strengthen the Chain of Friendship which
it is our Desire may ever Continue & endure—

Father Kayenlaa We shall say
no more to you on the presnt. Occasion—
For as little folks we are few & of sm
significancy & as little folks ought not multiply Wds
We shall endeav. to enjoy the Blessings
of the presnt. moment, and attend to the grand
Council of the U.S. whom we Congratulate
on th. safe arrival here—

You have inf^d us that you will dep^t
from hence tomorrow & if we shall have
any thing more to say we will come to you
at y^r ~~[illegible]~~ immediately at Quarters

Thomas Campbell

Alexander Campbell

Thomas Campbell

Thos Campbell

Alexander Campbell

Extracts from the proceedings of

October 1784

Speech of the Pennsylvania Comm

" That the Lands &c. are now a

" line of Division described in

" States and Great Britain

" of your late and decisions of the

" after the morrow of our Ar

Treaty at Fort Mc

" Note appertaining to the Co

" Indian Nations, were

" Lands in Pennsylvania an

" the present Negotiation

" them. Informs the In

said Lands from the Sea

Speech of the Indians " Our

our children that from the

to the Lake was our

not the little Beaver which

Cuyahoga to the East of

Venango is on the Allegheny

on the North side of the

of a Treaty held at Fort Stanwix

missioners

about to purchase are already ceded by the

the articles of Peace between the United

yet We mean not to take any advantage

ving you a valuable consideration for them

ncestors your Brothers of Pennsylvania

Intosh Jany. 1785.

ommissioners that the Wyandots and

the only Claimants of the unpurchased

mongst the Western Indians consequently

n the part of the State are conceived to

ndians that they had the purchased the

tions last October at Fort Stanwix —

Fathers always told us and the late

Mingoes to Little Beaver Creek and out

nting ground — 4th. part of the Treaty

into the Ohio on the north side about

the Western line of Pennsylvania —

River now called Fort Franklin

River

Extract from Proceedings
of Treaty at Fort Stanwix

7

COMMISSIONERS FOR INDIAN TREATY TO PRES. DICKINSON, 1784.

Fort Stanwix, Oct. 4th, 1784.

Sir,

We embrace the opportunity which is offered to us by the return of Monseiur Marbois, to inform your Excellency and the Honorable Council, of our safe arrival at this place after a tedious Journey. Sundry unexpected delays have retarded the Treaty, And the conferences were not opened till yesterday, when they were begun with four of the six Nations; the Business, in our Opinion, would not have commenced so soon had it not been at the instance of the Marquis De la Fayette, who wished to address the Indians, and was under the necessity of departing this day, or to-morrow. The Commissioners did not enter fully into the business of their appointment, they explain'd the purpose of the Treaty, introduced the Marquis De la Fayette & Monsieur De Marbois in Character of the Minister of France. The Marquis Addressed them, praised those who had adhered to us in the late War—blamed those who had been our Enemies with freedom; their Answer was pertinent, and breathed the spirit of peace. The Mohawks, in particular, declared their repentance for the Errors which they had committed. We were likewise introduced to them by the Continental Commissioners.—We have Intelligence that Ten Tribes of Indians are on their March for this place, great part of whom are expected to Morrow. When these Indians arrive, the Commissioners will proceed (we are fully satisfied) with all possible diligence.—Nothing has been done Officially in the Business of our appointment; but we beg leave to assure you, that we are not a moment inattentive to the Object of our Mission. We are happy in a perfect harmony with the Continental Commissioners, Altho' we have had many cross accidents and embarrassing circumstances from other Quarters. The delays which we have experienced, (& which we know have been unavoidable,) have indeed given us pain; But, we know that our only resource is patience, and we are determined to use it. We will not venture to give any certain Opinion as to the final Issue of our business, and can only say, that the disposition of the Indians now Assembled appears to be favorable.

We have the Honor to be,
with the greatest respect,
Your Excellency's most
Obedient & very Hum'l Serv'ts,
SAM. J. ATLEE,
Wm MACLAY,
FRAS. JOHNSTON.

Directed,—Public Service.

His Excellency John Dickinson, Esqr, President of the Supreme Exec. Council for the State of Pennsylvania.

Fort Stanwix Octr 4. 1784

Sir

We embrace the opportunity, which is offered to us by the return of Monſieur Marbois, to inform Your Excellency and the Honorable Council, of our safe arrival at this place after a tedious Journey, sundry unexpected delays have retarded the Treaty, And the conferences were not opened till yesterday, when they were begun with four of the six Nations, the Buſineſs in our Opinion, would not have commenced so soon had it not been at the instance of the Marquis De la Fayette who wished to addreſs the Indians and was under the neceſsity of departing this day or tomorrow The Commiſsioners did not enter fully into the buſineſs of their appointment, they explain'd the purpose of the Treaty introduced the Marquis De la Fayette, & Monſieur De Marbois in Character of the Miniſter of France, the Marquis Addreſsed them, praised those who had adhered to us in the late War, blamed those who had been our Enemies with freedom; their Answer was pertinent and breathed the spirit of peace the Mohawks in particular declared their repentance for the Errors which they had committed; We were likewise introduced to them by the Continental Commissioners — We have intelligence that Ten Tribes of Indians are on their March for this place great part of whom are expected to Morrow, when these Indians Arrive the Commissioners will proceed (we are fully satisfied) with all possible diligence — Nothing has been done Officially in the Business of our appointment but we beg leave to Assure You that we are not a moment inattentive to the Object of our Mission, We are ~~perf~~ happy in a perfect harmony with the Continental Commissioners, Altho we have had many cross accidents and embarrassing circumstances from other Quarters — the delays which we have experienced (& which we know have been unavoidable) have indeed given us pain, But we know that our only resource is Patience, and we are determined to use it, we will not venture to give any certain Opinion as to the final Issue of our business and can only say that the disposition of the Indians now Assembled appear to be

favor

favorable —

We have the Honor to be
with the greatest respect
Your Excellency's
most Obedient &
very Hble.
Saml. J. Atlee
Wm. Maclay
Fras. Johnston

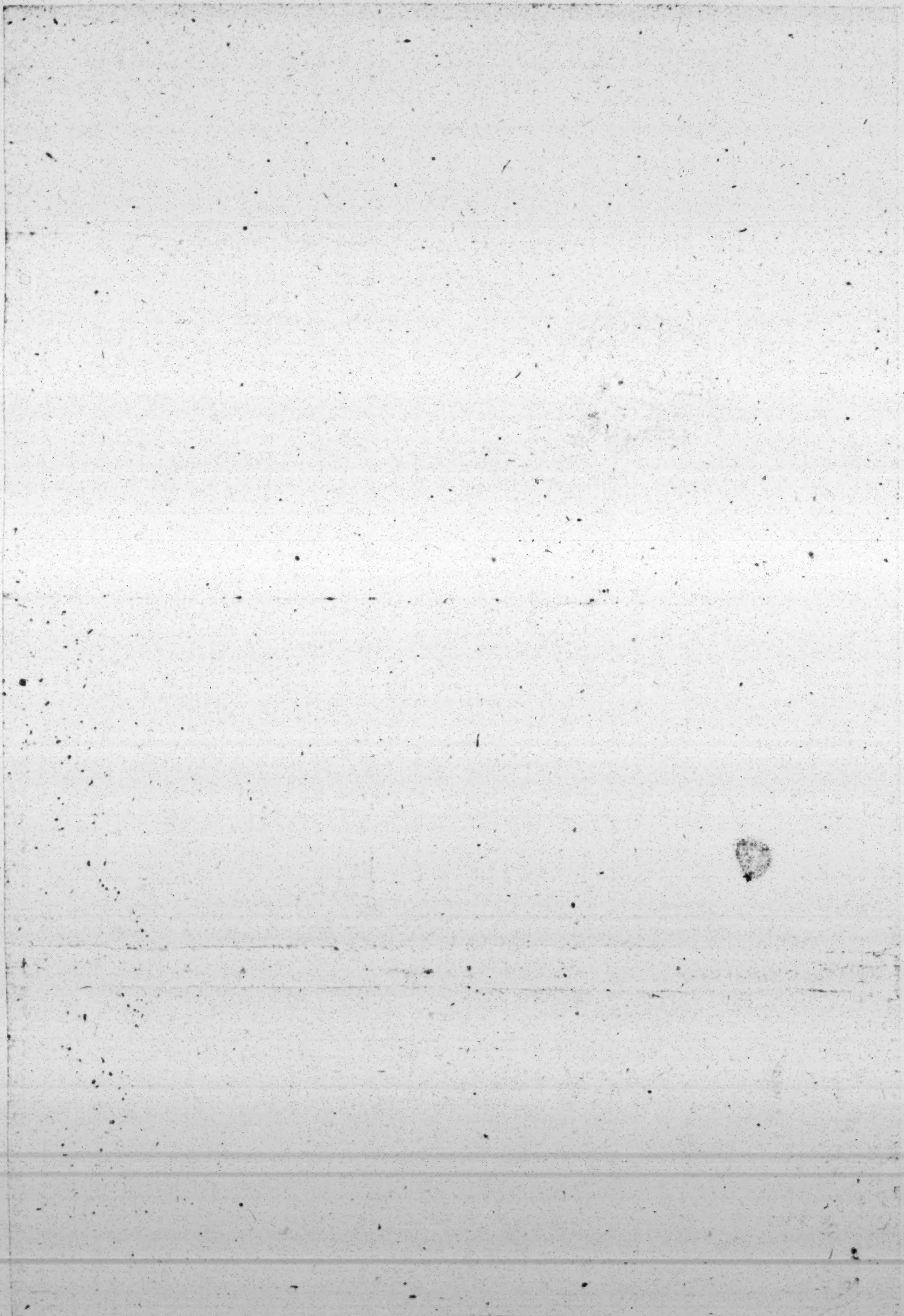
His Excelly John Dickinson

1784
October 4th } Letter from
Saml. J. Atlee
Wm. Maclay and
Francis Johnston, Commissioners of the Indian
Treaty

Entered

His Excellency John Dickinson Esqr.
President of the Supreme Exec. Council
for the State of Pennsylvania

Public Service



Grasshoppers answer to the Marquis De la Fayette delivered 4th. of Octr. 1784 —

Father Kayenlaa

I desire that all the Nations present may open their ears to the few words I shall now speak, and that you the great chief of our Father Onondio may hear them.

You spoke to us yesterday Congratulations reproofs and advices, We received them kindly because we remember the words which you said to us seven years ago, and which preserved us from being misled by those who opposed the cause of America —

This Belt (handing it to the Marquis) was given to us by our fathers twenty years ago who told us that each ought to hold one end of it and that at some future period their voice would again be heard among us.

Father Kayenlaa

Your words have been made good by the events in the great [illegible] and therefore it is that we receive all the words which you have now spoken to us, on this Occasion.

"The Marquis (returning the Belt) replied"

That he was pleased that the belt had been so ~~carefully~~ well kept, and that his own words had preserved his children the Oneidas and ~~Tusca~~ other friendly tribes from taking part against the United States — That France will still hold one end of the Belt, and that America through the alliance ~~by her alliance with that country~~ with France would ~~now~~ yet be considered as connected with her Children would also take hold of it, and begged them to accept his thanks for their faithful observance of his advice against joining with the who

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who took part against the United States —

Speech of a Caughnawaga Chief in answer to that of the Marquis De la Fayette

Father Kayenlaa —

Open your Ears to the few words which I now deliver on your departure from among us.

The Nations of the North have long been the Children of the great ~~[illegible]~~ Onondio. The words which you have spoken to us are agreable because they were true.

You began with thanking the Supreme Being for conducting you to this place of Peace and Friendship — We acknowledge the same providence. and hope that it will render the present meeting productive of the greatest blessings — We thank you for all your Words, and saluting you, take our leave of you.

Father Kayenlaa We have one word more to add to what we have already said.

When we lost the North Nations we received instructions from the Governor of Canada, which are not foreign from the purport of your Speech to us — He counselled us to conduct ourselves with great decency, and to speak with soft words at the Treaty of Peace which is now to be held with the Thirteen United States telling us at the same time that all hostilities were now at an end between the United States, and the King of Great Britain. he further advised us to observe the same mild conduct with respect to the several Indian Nations, particularly those which might come from the Neighbourhood of Niagara —

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The Answer of ~~Kayenthwaughta~~ Sowanegunda a Seneca Chief —

Father Kayenlaa a chief of the great Onondio — Open your ears to the words I am now to utter. In the introduction of your Speech you acknowledged the Superintendance of the great Spirit above, in leading you to this place where you meet your Children in peace, you then gave us some admonition and some advice in which you signified that Paternal affection could sooner forget injuries than good Offices, and was not this the case you would not have appeared on this ground —

Father You also reminded us of the words you spoke to us at our first meeting seven years ago at Jn. Johns You then told us you knew the foundation of the quarrel between A & G.B. and that the Cause of it was Just & that ye gt A. wd form a chain with her which wd remain bright forever, and you appealed to our memory respg fulfilment of your wishes — You also Cautioned us concerning other matters of gt importance. Observing that if we ~~shd~~ folld yr advice at the p. T. You shd hear of us on the other side of the great Water with gt Satisfaction

Father, you will now open your Ears once more

326 We hd not time Yest. to deliberate on yr words it is very true tht we were not free from faults and we have been led into very great errors by the instigation of ~~England~~ Gt Brit~~ons~~ain to take part agt the U.S. We have been wrong.

But it becomes all Nat.s to Comp.t one another when Calam.ts fall upon them. & Especially does it become y.e V.rs to shew this Comp. to y.e Vanq-

Father You will hear our voice. our Minds are all drawn upon this C.F. ~~which is Refore~~ which is to be kindled by the U.S. whose Represent.s are now p.t – our hopes & Confidence are cent.d on this Treaty. if they speak g.d words all will go well and peace will prevail throughout all the Nations.

Father take this with you (giving the Belt) & remember our words. ——

The Marquis answered

That We are Ob.d to y.e Gov.r of Canada for his Sincere Wishes for the Success of this treaty; and that they must also be obliged to him for his advice to make y.e best terms they C.d. That he knows the dispositions of Congress are Kind and is glad to hear his lost Children are Returning from their former Errors – That he invites all the Indians to forget animosities ag.st each other. That matters being thus circumstanced he has no doubt but that the Treaty will be settled to the satisfaction of the U.S. and that upon th.t expectation he enjoys the returning feelings of Palmolas

Sir/ Fort Stanwix Octr. 5th 1784

We have the honor to inform your Excellency that we arrived here on the 2d. having been delayed by various difficulties in forwarding the Stores & Troops.

Some only of the Chiefs of different tribes & some from Canada are now here, & we have information that many more are on their way & expected daily. We therefore delay opening our business 'till the whole shall be assembled; having announced to those present our arrival. In these we find a very pacific disposition, & an acknowledged Sense of their past errors.

Tho' we gave due information to the Governor of this State of the time & place of holding the treaty, that if he had any business to transact with the Indns he might do it under the patronage of the Uni. yet he chose to hold a treaty with the Six Nations before us, ~~&~~ we are told endeavoured to make peace with them in the name of this State. We cannot learn that he succeeded in purchasing territory from them; & we thought proper to inform the Indians in our conference, that a treaty with an individual State without the sanction of Congress could be of no validity.

We have the honor to be
with the greatest esteem & respect
Yr. Excellency's most obedt.
humb. Servts.

His Excellency
The President of Congress

Oliver Wolcott
Richd. Butler
Arthur Lee

No. 11
O. Wolcott. R. Butler
A. Lee 5 Octr. 1784

of some white people on our lands, by our consent and that the neceſsary patents may be iſsued to such, as our said Agent shall point out. And we do further empower our said Attorney to sell or lease a certain Block or tract of land, situated on the Grand River aforesaid, bounded, Southerly by lands granted to Wm. Wallace, Easterly and Northerly by lands of the King and Westerly by the purchase line, containing about Thirty thousand acres, and we do further implore his most Gracious Majesty our Royal Father, will please to order that Patents may iſsue to such persons as our said Agent may dispose of the aforesaid tract of land to. the proceeds of which is intended by us as a small remuneration for the great and eminent services of our aforesaid Brother and Principal Chief and Agent who has for more than twenty years past at our unanimous request devoted his time and interest to our service, whereby he has expended a considerable part of his income and personal Estate, and whom we have now solicited to lay the state of our affairs before our Royal Father. Also further empowering our Principal Chief and Agent, to ask, demand, sue for and recover all and every right, title, claim or claims, we have or may have or have been poſseſsed of in the State of New York or any of the United States, hereby empowering our said Agent to dispose of the same in manner and form as he shall see fit for our only use and behoof and also in our name and stead to do and perform every act and thing touching and concerning our condition and interest in relation to the matters herein contained in as full and ample manner and form as we ourselves could or might do were we personally present, and one or more Attorneys under him to substitute and appoint and again and again at his pleasure to revoke, we said undersigned Chiefs and Sachems hereby allowing confirming and ratifying whatever our said beloved Brother, Principal Chief and Agent shall do or cause to be done in the Premises.

In Witness whereof the aforesaid Sachems and Chiefs have hereunto set our hands and Seals at the Grand River in the Province aforesaid this tenth day of October in the Year of our Lord One thousand Eight hundred and four.

		Tekarahogen	L.S.
		Ayonghqwentha	LS
		Tekenegarine	LS
		Shatekarewate	LS
		Sharenowane	LS
Upper Mohawks	Wm Hess - living	Shagohetstegare	LS
		Teonghwengarakwen	LS
		Aghstawenserontha	LS
		Shokghgoharewane	LS
		Onagarondongh	LS
		Oghonwanoron	LS
		Shaghoyadeyoghetha	LS
		Atoghserongegh	LS
		Kayendaderhon	LS
		Gonghsaneyonte	LS
		Ayanate	LS
		Thahosaneghtongh	LS.
		Oghsita	LS
		Shayendaghea	LS
		Atewenookten	LS
		Sharoyanwanen	LS
Onondaga Chief	John Buck - living	Onagarondongh	LS
Do Do	Jacob Crookedneck	Neghnyasagwadon	LS
		Onagwadekha	LS
		Awennarare	LS
		Kanentwaght	LS
		Onereraghere	LS.

Signed, Sealed and delivered in the presence of us }
Augustus Jones
Augustus Bates.

August 25. 1784. The Com.^{rs} fix the pay of their ſecretary & ſtorekeepers at 2 2/3 dol. ⅌ day.

By a resolve of Congreſs of March 19. 1784. the pay of the Com.^{rs} was fixed at 6 1/2 D. ⅌ day in full for ſervices & expences – except the expences at the places of treaty.

Extracts from the proceedings of the Commiſsioners for making peace with the Indians in 1784 & 1785.

Speech at Fort Stanwix Octr. 12. 1784.

"— The U. States are the ſole Sovereigns within the limits juſt now described to you, in the treaty with the King of Great Britain; and therefore the ſole power to whom all the nations living within those limits are hereafter to look up for protection."

" The U States, in making peace with the tribes here present, will expect, in order to prevent future difficulties and disputes, that you will propose ſuch a boundary line between the U States & you as will be juſt for you to offer & honourable for the U States to agree to."

Octr. 17th

The Indians ſpoke in answer to the Commiſsioners ſpeach of the 12. Capt. Aaron Hill, the Mohawk, was their ſpeaker. He

(2

He said he ſpoke (to treat of peace) not only for the Six Nations, but for the Ottawas, Chippawas, Hurons, Potowatamas, Meſsaſaugas, Miamis, Delawares, Cherokees, Shawanees, Chickasaws, Choctaws & Creeks

"We are (says he) free and independent, and at preſent under no influence. We have hitherto been bound by the great King: but he having broke the Chain, has left us to ourselves; ſo that we are again free."

[The mentioning the boundary line as deſcribed in the definitive treaty of peace with G.B. Aaron said] "This, you aſsured us, is your boundary: that all the territory within it is the property of the U States; and that all the Nations reſiding therein must look up to them for protection."

Oct. 18. Capt O Beal ſpoke.

"Now brothers I am about to draw the line: This we Senecas do of ourselves, as the land belongs ſolely to us."

"Let it begin at Tioga and run thence by a ſtraight line, inclining a little to the north, to Ottiga; and when it ſtrikes the river Ohio, let it go down its ſtream to the old boundary on the Cherokee river. — As to the territory westward of that, you muſt talk respecting it with the Western Nations, towards the setting of the Sun. They muſt conſult of what part they must cede to the United States"

Oct. 20th.

The Commiſsioners ſpoke to the Indians. They ridiculed their profeſsion of speaking "for all the Indian Nations from the North to the South!" and said they had "ſummoned the Six Nations only to this treaty."

They gave reasons for refusing to give the Indians a copy of their (the Comrs.) ſpeech — because ill-designing men among them, under British influence, might misinterpret & deceive them.

"— You are mistaken in ſuppoſing that having been excluded from the treaty between the U.S. and the King of England, you are become a free and independent Nation, and may make what terms you please. It is not ſo: you are a ſubdued people: you have been overcome in a war which you entered into with us — not only without provocation, but in violation of the moſt ſacred obligations."

"With regard to the boundary line you have proposed, the lands to the northwest of it have almost all been already sold to Onas. And all the land ſouthwest of it, to the Cherokee river, was sold by you in the year 1768, and is all granted and ſettled by the white people."

"We shall therefore now declare to you the conditions on which alone you can be received into the peace and protection of the UStates."

[Then follow the articles which constituted the treaty with the Six Nations.]

"The line proposed [by the Com^{rs}.] leaves as extenſive a country to the remaining four nations [Senekas, Mohawks, Onondagas, Cayugas] as they can in reason desire; & more than from their conduct in the war, they could expect. The King of Great Britain ceded to the UStates *the whole*. By the right of conquest they might claim *the whole*: yet they have taken but a ſmall part, compared with their numbers and their wants."

Oct. 21.

Capt. Aaron Hill ſpoke.

"You likewiſe informed us that if we did not produce any belts or written proofs for our ſpeaking in the name of those Western tribes, our word would paſs away without effect. We did not bring any proofs with us; but left them at the Council Fire which is now burning with our brothers the Shawanese on the river Sandusky."

"Brothers, At this place you may obtain the proofs we have mentioned. Our brothers the Caughnawaga sits here by virtue of the power given to him at that council fire."

Good Peter spoke in the name of the Six Nations.

"Brothers, Comrs of the 13. U.S." —

"We have considered what you proposed to us, as to the boundary — let it be as you say. We will make peace with the U.States upon the terms they have laid down."

[He then spoke in behalf of the 4 hostile tribes.]

"Brothers, It appears by your speech that you expect we should discover some signs of repentance for our conduct during the late war: We do repent. We assured you that we were a free & independent people; and as such we make this acknowledgement."

"Brothers, As you may suppose that our minds are ruffled at what has taken place — we assure you that they are not. Our minds are composed; and we heartily rejoice at the present peace!"

The numbers of Indians who attended this treaty, are not mentioned in the proceedings of the Commiſsioners.

In a letter to the President of Congreſs (Oct.r 5th) they say – "Some only of the Chiefs from different tribes & ſome from Canada are ~~arrived~~ now here; and we have information that many more are on their way, & expected daily." –

Oct.r 8. "Captain Aaron Hill, a chief of the Mohawks – this day arrived, with a party of Indians of that nation, & ſome Shawanees and Delawares."

This party said "they expected more of their head men would arrive in a few days."

Oct. 12. A Council was held. Aaron Hill addreſsed the Commiſsioners. He said the meſsage to attend the treaty came so late, and the ſickneſs which universally pervaded their country, were the causes why so few attended. And that a number of their brothers to the westward, the Wyandots in particular, had returned home, by reaſon of the advanced ſeaſon of the year, after having come as far as Niagara: So that there were present only themſelves & their brothers the Shawanees.

The Commiſsioners then ſpoke to the Indians aſsembled in Council, opening their authority & buſineſs.

"The Commiſsioners then informed Capt. O'Beal that they had received a letter from the Head Men of Six Townships whereby he was authorized to act on their part"

In a ſpeech of Oct. 17. Capt. Aaron Hill said to the Com.rs — "I see clearly the purpose of your ſpeech, and beg your attention to the words of the Warriors; for there are no Sachems among us."

"I ſpeak in the name of the Six Nations, & not only in their name, but also in the name of all the other tribes."

The treaty is ſigned by 12 Indians, viz. 3 Senekas, 1 Cayuga, & 2 from the other 4 tribes of the Six Nations.

[N.B. The same Indians who conducted that treaty, muſt have executed the deed of ſale of their land to Pennſylvania; the validity of which has not been questioned.] — The Commiſsioners held the firſt Council Oct. 3d & finished the treaty and th departed Oct. 26.

The Commissioners who conducted the Treaty at Fort Stanwix, were

Oliver Wolcott
Richard Butler
Arthur Lee

the [illegible] the ch[illegible] [illegible]
about it That we meant to fix a bound
between them & the U.S. First the
[illegible] is very [illegible]
[illegible]
of them [illegible]
the others who have e gone - they
agree to [illegible] the [illegible] - but still
the country [illegible]
the hunting ground of the Senecas [illegible]
they lived at [illegible] & that I knew the country
well & that it was very little [illegible] by them
that it would [illegible]
they then ask if they should agree to
the object to their young men [illegible]
[illegible] no provided they behave
[illegible] when [illegible] them
[illegible] the settlements - they
agreed to all [illegible]
the proposal [illegible] & asked [illegible]
[illegible] Peter to [illegible] them
[illegible] consented to - [illegible]
in the affirmative & made

(Fort Stanwix Treaty - 1784.)

Michillimackinac

On the 21st Oct.r Capt.n Abeal and
three other Senecas requested a
private audience – which was gran[ted]
they then propos'd to send imme-
diately to their towns to bring in
the prisoners which they say
can be done in 20 days – & engag'd
they will bring them to the
[illegible] ~~[illegible]~~ take it & deliver them
to such persons as we will app.t to
receive them, but request we
will send a boat & provisions
for them – this we agreed to –
they leaving the Hostages demanded
for the performance – all those at
Oswegatchie & Oswego inclusive –
agreed to be by them
We then propos'd that we
defer the Settlem.t of Bound.y bet-
ween [illegible] all the propos.s
may be collected from the fact of our having & we do that the Six
nations have been always treated with
as the people & had done this same busi-
ness – that we consider them fully
competent to this same business
that they have declared it & we ex-
pect full decision on all the Arti-
cles – they then probably say they have
[illegible] the boundary of the 1768 purchase
line is it stated [illegible]
would be agreed compensation

Propositions Octr 18th 1784

It appears by the report of the Committee on Indian Affairs, as well as a Resolution of Congress of Octr 15-83 That it is thought to be the Interest of the U.S. to treat with the Indians, to make peace & receive them into the protection of the U.S. rather than hazard a war under present circumstances —— And That a boundary line which Congress describe be propos.d beginning at the mouth of the great Miamia river which empties in to the Ohio &c &c bounding on Pennsa to the East &c —— Then direct a Convention to be held with the Indians ~~#~~ inhabiting the district affores.d their allies & dependents for the afforesaid purpose — Then direct to secure the Oneida & the Tuscarora tribes of their possess. & that they may rely on the lands which they claim will be reserv for their use &c — till they think fit to dispose of &c

Then by the 4th Article of March 19th 1784 Congress direct that a meridian line passing through the lowest part or point of the rapids of Ohio to the northern boundary of ~~the~~ U.S. be propos.d as the line of division between the Indians & the U.S. be as describ.d bounding on Pennsa on the East as affores.d in the 4th Article of Octr 1783 or so much thereof as the Tribes having the claims thereto may be induced to part with shall be ceded to the U.S. & possession thereof or of any parts thereof be given to the U.S. at such times as may be agreed upon in the Treaty — the 6th Article dinch to countenance seperate treaties & divisions among the S. N. & to hold treaties at such place as they may think proper — &c. &c.

From these instructions I am of Opinion the Commissioners are authoris'd to make the best bargain for the U. S. that circumstances may put in their power, or reduce them to —

Secondly as the East boundary is fix'd on the West of Pennsylva which must be a future Settlement between that State & the U. S. — I am of Opinion we have very little to do with the S. N. on the subject of boundary except to fix that boundary with the Senecas — if this is Admitted I would propose the following it appearing to me the most likely to be obtain'd for these reasons, viz. that very few Indians now live within it, its & the hunting much reduc'd, and its contiguity to our these Settlements will tend to lessen it & intimidate the Indians from Approaching — To begin at the mouth of the great Miamia which empties into lake Erie — up said river to the portage from sd. river to the river Wabash including the landings — thence down the river Wabash north Post Vincent or to the 40th d N. Latitude — thence due west to the Illenois river — thence down the Illenois river to its mouth or entrance into the Mississippi thence down the Mississippi to the mou of the Ohio — thence up said river to the Western bounds of the State of Pennsa thence along the west line of the said State to its Northn bounds, along the sd Bounds thence to the ~~Eastern~~ Southern most boundary of the U.S thence along the said S. bounds to the Easternmost bound of the U.S. thence along the said Easternmost bounds to the northern Boundary as settled between the King of great Britain & the U.S. & along said N. Bounds through the lakes &c

18th At a meeting of the Commissrs the 18th Octr to determine on an Answr to the Speech of the Seneca Chief Captn Abeel delivd in Council yesterday & to conclude on articles of treaty & boundary to be propos'd between the [illegible] Senacas — much debate ensued — Mr Wolcott seemd to incline that a body of land should be reservd for the U.S between the eastern boundary of the Senecas & the Western boundary of the Oneidas alledging it to be the country that was conquerd by the American arms from the Onondagos, Cayugas & Caughnawagos, — this I observd was probably to lead us into a business of controversy with States which I could not think we should engage in & that if we could obtain a boundy between the U.S. & the Senecas on the West, it would leave us an open to demand a good boundy from the Western tribes — — — Those

The treaty was then propos.d in Gen.l terms
& met a seeming Acquiescence was then
both by Mr. W & Mr. Lee — but the latter hav-
ing propos.d that a determination should
first be come to on the following quest.ns
Viz Shall we make a positive Demand of
the return of the Prisoners & as necessary as
preliminaries to a peace — Mr. Wolcott
Hesitated & seemed to be possess.d of an Opin:
that the Indians were not dispos.d to deal
sincerely with us but to evade every thing
we might propose therefore suspended his
decision — Mr. Lee said he thought we had
best to make no proposition to them but
Report to Congress the State of matters &
let them procure a force of such magnitu-
de as would be effectual to command obedience
that Capt. Brant & David was going
to England & would excite the ministry
to give them assistance next spring
These Opinions I combated alledging
we could neither acc.d to our Country
whose blood is still among them with-
out a peremptory Demand of the pris-
oners being given up or security by Hostages
if they refus.d they had no intentions of peace
Mr. Lee said he could not see that they had
~~not~~ they had not demonstrated it in any
way — I observ.d that he knew from letters
& personal assurance of Gentlemen & oth-
ers the [illegible] of the Committee

Congress of October 83 – as appears
by their instructions & were some
assurance & lastly the published
Private declarations of the Mohawk
Nation. the Seneca the liberal & oth
were proofs of their wish to be at
peace – & that I thought we must
make some propositions to them
for a boundary otherwise we were
putting our Country to very great
expence for nothing & that we should
have determined to say nothing to them
& stay'd at home – but to conclude I
gave it as my opinion that we should
demand the prisoners & hostages
for their delivery demand that if they
refus'd I should find no compunc-
tion in seizing the headmen till
they did. that if they complied we
should give them peace alledging
that that would disarm them for the
present – that we should then
propose a boundary, which if
they refus'd our Country would be
properly apprisd & would take

[illegible]

[illegible]

proceeding in trade [illegible]

[illegible] meeting [illegible]

[illegible] Brother [illegible]

[illegible] that [illegible] be [illegible] balance [illegible]

[illegible] improperly [illegible] part in the dispute [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] disposition of the [illegible] explained fully [illegible]

[illegible] the Country [illegible]

[illegible] satisfaction for the Damage [illegible]

[illegible] opinion [illegible] their intention for [illegible]

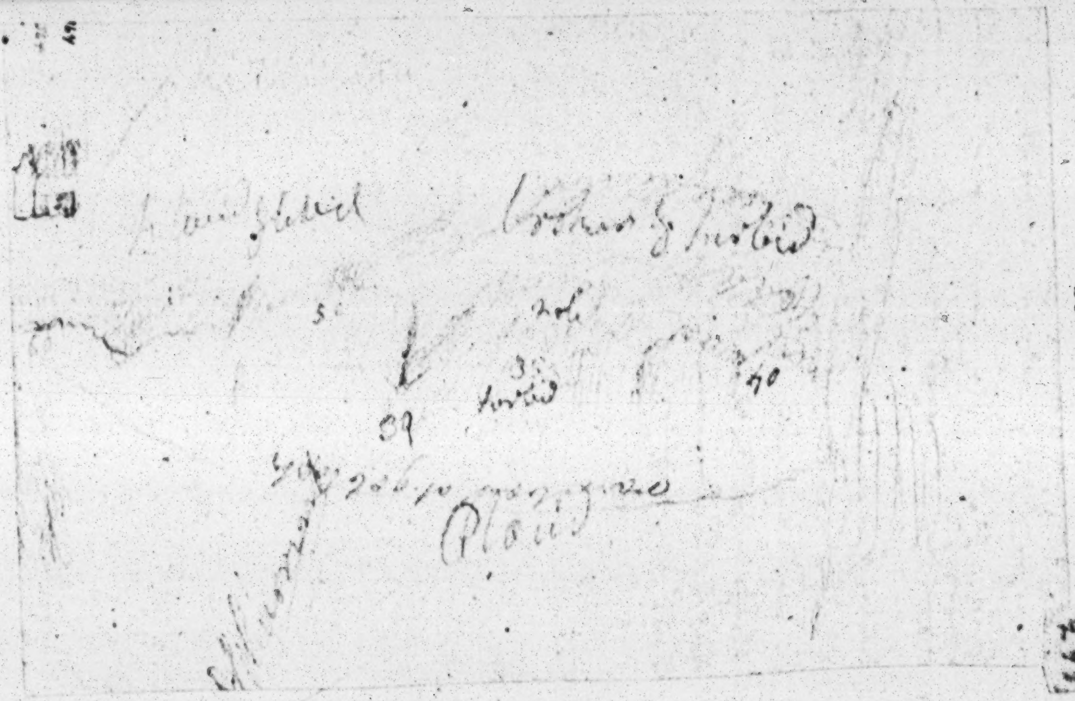
[illegible] by [illegible] the Indians [illegible]

8

[illegible] the [illegible] of their [illegible]
Spheres
advantage which Country of [illegible] has given over the [illegible]
[illegible]
Trade from natural advantages being in the possession of both parties
at Cadiz [illegible] Treaty of Peace & Alliance
Property of [illegible] imprisoned by the
mode of [illegible] both [illegible]
[illegible] in their Port & [illegible]
[illegible] at full [illegible] when their [illegible]
Property of their [illegible] in these [illegible] as being
the old [illegible] consequence of this [illegible]
the minds of the [illegible]
[illegible] places of trade [illegible]
[illegible]
the [illegible]
[illegible]

measures before the british could possibly
assist them in the Spring, & that from
their present poverty & reduc.d State
as well as approach of Winter, I do
not think they would strike or
injure us this winter — Mr. Wolcott
then said he tho.t some proposals
must be made on our part but wish'd
them not peremptory as in that case
we could not recede, & ask.d if we that
if we propos.d a boundary & they did
not agree could we make other
or must we break off — I said I
thought we had a right to alter
once twice or thrice & in that
we would certainly know their
intention fully & would stand on
more justifiable ground to break
than if we were peremptory.

Mr. Lee then propos.d these
questions, Shall we determine
to pass the propositions that had been
made & demand the Prisoners, offer
them Peace, & propose a boundary


5
2
3
39
40

in favor of a treaty to which I agreed & suggested he would form it — Mr. Wolcott said he would not object but added he expected little benefit —

19th — The Articles of treaty & a very elegant speech prep.d by Mr. Lee & matters arrang.d 20th a meeting & the Articles read & speech spoken. the Articles as follows viz 1st That 6 hostages be deliv.d to the Commiss.rs to be held by the U.S. till all the prisoners in the

1784

on ~~[illegible]~~ Tuesday the 26th Octr 1784

having compleated the treaty with the Six nations this day finish'd the distribution of the goods. We left the three States possessed of it in public writing accordingly. then we proceeded on our Journey for [illegible] leaving some of the Chiefs we Shared [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] leave — deliv'd the Instructions to the [illegible] them with [illegible] [illegible] for the prisoners [illegible] for them. the [illegible] also the U States took [illegible] [illegible] having [illegible] loaded [illegible] a [illegible] down — [illegible] [illegible] East [illegible] [illegible] thence one mile to a small creek which comes in on the South side [illegible] very bad & difficult — thence 4 miles to a creek which comes in on the S. Side, here we overtook the Young [illegible] & lay all night — fine weather [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

27th Set out after a good night [illegible]
the & breakfast [illegible] came 1 m [illegible] on
small creek on the S. side the
creek widening & water better
thence 2 M. to Oneshtee a small Indian
Village on the S. side on a small creek
this place is noted among the Indians for its
vicinity to a noted battle or skirmish where
their tradition says the [illegible] killed
300 warriors [illegible]
the Conestogoes — thence [illegible]
quite 7 m — thence to ~~[illegible]~~ Old [illegible] 6 m
large point
thence to Thompson's [illegible]
14 m — the river from Old [illegible] has
an agreeable appearance the lands
very rich but subject to inundation —
just below Thompson's comes in a [illegible]
creek from the [illegible] — thence 2 m
to Germantown [illegible] 6 m
thence 4 m — & Encamp'd on a bank
28th thence 3 m to Fort [illegible]
where some [illegible] the [illegible]
water just below the [illegible] is [illegible]
where we grounded — from [illegible]
[illegible] 6 m — had the boats taken
over & Encamp'd this is full of
rills

(9) [illegible] in this [illegible]
be made habitable. A third [illegible]
At the [illegible] is a fine mill seat &
a good grist mill which belong^d to one Elis
& burned by Butler & Brant — it is
good [illegible] for the [illegible] people [illegible]
the [illegible] Indians are fine
[illegible] — 2 [illegible] and boats got
out [illegible] a very rocky passage
but fine water —

303 The word belts is meant to be applied when
full of the peace is concluded—
this done — He Demets the Indian
assurances of his protection &
friendship &c — [illegible]
the warning & hurrying &c to
guard the [illegible] of the [illegible]
Indians — In his belt — —

A belt [illegible] take up all the Hatchet by
one [illegible] token [illegible]
and [illegible] for the Americans to be held for
to be given by congress as
regards.

N.B.

In the distribution [illegible] possibly
Notice to be taken [illegible]
death of Magee [illegible]
was murthered by the Sonecas
on the Mohawk River —

At a conference between the Commissioners of Congress for Indian affairs & the Chiefs of Oneida this twentieth day of October 1784. The said Oneida Chiefs in behalf of their Nation Made the following Speech to the Honble Commissioners. The Grasshopper being Speaker —

Brothers: Attend

We are happy in seeing the Commissrs of Congress for Indian Affairs at this Council-fire. We are encouraged to hope all matters will be settled in the best manner — We have been repeating to you the former declaration of Congress respecting us Oneidas & produced some written Testimonials — We have one thing more to Certify to you —

Brothers Open your ears:

We have for a long time considered Mr. James Dean alias Kalanhgwadirhon as our friend since he is the Servant of Congress — he has long been in public Service & attentive to our Interest as the faithfull Allies of the United States —

We consider him as having Merited some reward — We have no Money — We wish him to continue with us — he is the Interpreter of Congress & will be their Interpreter to us & ours to them in all our future Negotiations & we shall be mutually benefitted by his services — May Congress consider him —

Brothers, By this Belt we inform you what we on our part have done for him & confirm the same.

We Oneidas have given to James Dean Alias Kalaghwadirhon a piece of Land where he may live

Con.

Corn & Beans, build him a House & reside near us. It is within our own Territory & therefore our own property to dispose of as we please — the piece of Land which we have given the said James Dean is two Miles Square it lies on the Wood-Creek near the Oneida Lake, it begins at the Scow-Place so called, the boundaries are particularly Mentioned in the Conveyance

This Declaration we now make in the Name & behalf of our whole Nation

Brothers, you will acquaint Congress of this

Fort Stanwix
October 20th 1784

Interpreted by
Saml Kirkland
Missy

Names of the Chiefs
Ojistalale
Agwelentongwas
Skenondon
Oneyanha
Gaghsawida

Queeda Chiefs Speech
to the Govr in favr of the
Ocane

N.º 12.
Speech of the Oneidas to
the Commiſsioners 22 Octr
1784. Mr Holten
Mr Ellery
Mr Hardy
Mr Monroe
Mr Williamson

Novr 30 1784

#9

ARTICLES of a TREATY,

Concluded at FORT STANWIX, on the twenty-ſecond day of October, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-four, between Oliver Wolcott, Richard Butler and Arthur Lee, COMMISSIONERS PLENIPOTENTIARY from the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, on the one Part, and the SACHEMS and WARRIORS of the SIX NATIONS on the other.

THE United States of America give peace to the Senecas, Mohawks, Onondagas and Cayugas, and receive them into their protection upon the following conditions.

Article 1. Six hoſtages ſhall be immediately delivered to the commiſſioners by the ſaid nations, to remain in poſſeſſion of the United States, till all the priſoners white and black, which were taken by the ſaid Senecas, Mohawks, Onondagas and Cayugas, or by any of them in the late war, from among the people of the United States, ſhall be delivered up.

Art. 2. The Oneida and Tuſcarora nations ſhall be ſecured in the poſſeſſion of the lands on which they are ſettled.

Art. 3. A line ſhall be drawn, beginning at the mouth of a creek about four miles eaſt of Niagara, called Oyonwayea or Johnſon's Landing Place, upon the lake named by the Indians Oſwego, and by us Ontario, from thence ſoutherly in a direction always four miles eaſt of the carrying path, between lake Erie and Ontario, to the mouth of Tehoſeroron or Buffalo creek on lake Erie, thence ſouth to the north boundary of the ſtate of Pennſylvania, thence weſt to the end of the ſaid north boundary, thence ſouth along the weſt boundary of the ſaid ſtate, to the river Ohio, the ſaid line from the mouth of the Oyonwayea to the Ohio, ſhall be the weſtern boundary of the lands of the Six Nations, ſo that the Six Nations ſhall and do yield to the United States, all claims to the country weſt of the ſaid boundary, and then they ſhall be ſecured in the peaceful poſſeſſion of the lands they inhabit eaſt and north of the ſame, reſerving only ſix miles ſquare round the fort of Oſwego, to the United States, for the ſupport of the ſame.

Art. 4. The Commiſſioners of the United States in conſideration of the preſent circumſtances of the Six Nations, and in execution of the humane and liberal views of the United States upon the ſigning of the above articles, will order goods to be delivered to the ſaid Six Nations for their uſe and comfort.

Mohawks,

his
ONOGWENDAHONJI, × ( )
mark.

his
TORWIGHNATOGON, × ( )
mark.

Onondagas,

his
OHEADARIGHTON, × ( )
mark.

his
KENDARINDGON, × ( )
mark.

Senecas,

his
TAYAGONENDAGIGHTI, × ( )
mark.

his
TEHONWAEAGHRIYAGI, × ( )
mark.

OLIVER WOLCOTT, (L.S.)
RICHARD BUTLER, (L.S.)
ARTHUR LEE, (L.S.)

[Signers carried forward.]

OTYADONENGHTI,

[Signers brought forward.]

Oneidas,

his
OTYADONENGHTI, × ( )
mark.

his
DAYAHEARI, × ( )
mark.

Cayugas,

his
ORAGHGOANENDAGEN, × ( )
mark.

Tuſcaro,

his
ONONGHSAWENGTI, × ( )
mark.

his
THARONDAWAGEN, × ( )
mark.

Seneca Abeal,

his
KAYENTHOGHKE, × ( )
mark.

Witneſs. SAML. JO. ATLEE,
WM. MACLAY,
FRAS. JOHNSON, } *Pennſylvania Commiſſioners.*
AOERONKILL,
ALEXANDER CAMPBELL,
SAML. KIRKLAND, *Miſſy.*
JAMES DEAN
SAML. MONTGOMERY,
DERICK LANE, *Capt.*
JOHN MERCER, *Lieut.*
WILLIAM PENNINGTON, *Lieut.*
MAHLON FORD, *Enſign.*
HUGH PEEBLES.

ARTICLS of a TREATY,

Concluded at FORT M'INTOSH, the 21ſt day of January, 1785, between the COMMISSIONERS PLENIPOTENTIARY of the United States of America of the one part, and the Sachems and Warriors of the Wiandot, Delaware, Chippawa and Ottawa Nations of the other.

THE Commiſſioners Plenipotentiary of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, give peace to the Wiandot, Delaware, Chippawa and Ottawa nations of Indians, on the following conditions.

Art. 1. Three chiefs, one from among the Wiandot, and two from among the Delaware nations, ſhall be delivered up to the commiſſioners of the United States, to be by them retained till all the priſoners white and black taken by the ſaid nations or any of them, ſhall be reſtored.

Art. 2. The ſaid Indian nations do acknowledge themſelves and all their tribes to be under the protection of the United States, and of no other ſovereign whatſoever.

Art. 3. The boundary line between the United States and the Wiandot and Delaware nations, ſhall begin at the mouth of the river Cayahoga, and run thence up the ſaid river to the portage, between that and the Tuſcarawas branch of Muskingum---then down the ſaid branch to the forks at the croſſing place above fort Lawrence---then weſterly to the portage of the Big Miami, which runs into the Ohio, at the mouth of which Branch the fort ſtood, which was taken by the French in one thouſand ſeven hundred and fifty-two, then along the ſaid portage to the Great Miami, or Ome river, and down the ſouth eaſt ſide of the ſame to its mouth, thence along the ſouth ſhore of lake Erie, to the mouth of Cayahogo where it began.

Art. 4. The United States allot all the lands contained within the ſaid lines to the Wiandot and Delaware nations, to live and to hunt on, and to ſuch of the Ottawa nation as now live thereon; ſaving and reſerving for the eſtabliſhment of trading poſts, ſix miles ſquare at the mouth of Miami or Ome river, and the ſame at the portage on that branch of the Big Miami, which runs into the Ohio, and the ſame on the lake of Sanduske, where the fort formerly ſtood, and alſo two miles ſquare on each ſide of the lower rapids of Sanduske river, which poſts and the lands annexed to them, ſhall be to the uſe and under the government of the United States.

Art. 5. If any citizen of the United States or other perſon not being an Indian, ſhall attempt to ſettle on any of the lands allotted to the Wiandot and Delaware nations in this treaty, except on the lands reſerved to the United States in the preceding article, ſuch perſon ſhall forfeit the protection of the United States, and the Indians may puniſh him as they pleaſe.

Art. 6. The Indians who ſign this treaty, as well in behalf of all their tribes as of themſelves, do acknowledge the lands eaſt, ſouth and weſt of the lines deſcribed in the third article, ſo far as the ſaid Indians formerly claimed the ſame, to belong to the United States; and none of their tribes ſhall preſume to ſettle upon the ſame, or any part of it.

Art. 7. The poſt of Detroit, with a diſtrict begining at the mouth of the river Roſine, on the weſt end of lake Erie; and running weſt ſix miles up the ſouthern bank of the ſaid river, thence northerly and always ſix miles weſt of the ſtrait, till it ſtrikes the lake St. Clair, ſhall be alſo reſerved to the ſole uſe of the United States.

Art. 8. In the ſame manner the poſt of Michillimackinac with its dependencies, and twelve miles ſquare about the ſame, ſhall be reſerved to the uſe of the United States.

Art. 9. If any Indian or Indians, ſhall commit a robbery or murder on any citizen of the United States, the tribe to which ſuch offenders may belong, ſhall be bound to deliver them up at the neareſt poſt, to be puniſhed according to the ordinances of the United States.

Art. 10. The commiſſioners of the United States in purſuance of the humane and liberal views of Congreſs, upon this treaty's being ſigned, will direct goods to be diſtributed among the different tribes for their uſe and comfort.

Separate article. It is agreed that the Delaware chiefs Kelelamond or lieutenant colonel Henry Hengue Puſhees, or the Big Cat Wicocalind, or captain White Eyes, who took up the hatchet for the United States, and their families, ſhall be received into the Delaware nation, in the ſame ſituation and rank as before the war, and enjoy their due portions of the lands given to the Wiandot and Delaware nations, in this treaty, as fully as if they had not taken part with America, or as any other perſon or perſons in the ſaid nations.

Wiandots,	DAUNGHQUAT,	( )		
	ABRAHAM KUHN,	( )	GEO. CLARK,	(L.S.)
	OTTAWERRERI,	( )		
Delawares,	HOBOCAN,	( )		
	WALENDIGHTUN,	( )		
	TALAFOXIE,	( )	RICHARD BUTLER,	(L.S.)
	WINGENUM,	( )		
	PACKELANT,	( )		
Chippawas, Ottawas,	GINGEWANNO,	( )		
	WAANOOS,	( )	ARTHUR LEE,	(L.S.)
	KONALAWASSEE,	( )		
	SHAWNAGUM,	( )		
	QUECOOKHIA	( )		

Witneſſes. SAML. J. ATLEE, } *Pennſylvania Commiſſioners.*
FRANCIS JOHNSON, }
ALEXANDER CAMPBELL,
JOS. HARMAN, *Lieut. Colo. Comt.*
ALEXANDER LOWREY,
JOSEPH NICHOLAS, *Interp.*
D. BRADFORD,
GEORGE SLAUGHTER,
SAM. SWEARINGER,
JOHN BOGGS,
G. EVANS,
D. LUCKETT.

6

Articles of a Treaty concluded
at Fort Stanwix between the
Commissioners of the United States
and the Six Nations
22nd October 1784

9

Articles of a Treaty concluded at Fort Stanwix on the twenty second day of October One thousand seven hundred and eighty four **Between** Oliver Wolcott Richard Butler & Arthur Lee Commissioners Plenipotentiary from the United States in Congress Assembled on the one Part **and** the Sachems & Warriors of the Six Nations on the other.

The United States of America give Peace to the Senecas Mohawks Onondagas & Cayugas and receive them into their protection upon the following Conditions.

Article 1st Six Hostages shall be immediately delivered to the Commissioners by the said Nations to remain in possession of the United States till all the Prisoners White & Black which were taken by the said Senecas Mohawks Onondagas & Cayugas or by any of them in the late War from among the People of the United States shall be delivered up.

Art. 2d The Oneida and Tuscarora Nations shall be secured in the Possession of the Lands on which they are settled.

Art 3d A Line shall be drawn **Beginning** at the Mouth of a Creek about four Miles East of Niagara called Oyonwayea or Johnston's Landing place upon the Lake named by the Indians Oswego & by us Ontario from thence Southerly in a direction always four Miles East of the carrying path between Lake Erie & Ontario to the Mouth of Tehoseroron or Buffaloe Creek on Lake Erie thence South to the North Boundary of the State of Pennsylvania thence West to the end of the said North Boundary thence South along the West Boundary of the said State to the River Ohio The said Line from the Mouth of the Oyonwayea to the Ohio shall be the Western boundary of the Lands of the Six Nations so that the Six Nations shall and do yield to the United States all claims to the Country West of the said boundary and then they shall be secured in the peaceful Possession of the Lands they inhabit East & North of the same reserving only Six Miles square round the Fort of Oswego to the United States for the support of the same.

Art 4th The Commissioners of the United States in consideration of the present circumstances of the Six Nations and in execution of the humane and liberal views of the United States upon the signing of the above Articles will order Goods to be delivered to the said Six Nations for their use and comfort.

Witness

Saml Jo Atlee
Wm Maclay
Fras Johnston
Penna Commrs

Aaron Hill
Alexander Campbell
Saml Kirkland Missy
James Dean
Saml Montgomery
Derick Lane Captn
John Mercer Lieut
William Pennington Lieutt
Mahlon Ford Ensign
Hugh Peebles

Onogwendahonji his + mark
Touighnatogon his + mark
Oheadarighton his + mark
Kendarindgon his + mark
Tayagonendagighti his + mark
Tehonwaeaghrigagi his + mark
Otyadonenghti his + mark
Dagaheari his + mark
Oraghgoanendagen his + mark
Ononghsawenghti his + mark
Tharondawagon his + mark
Kayenthoghke his + mark

Oliver Wolcott
Richard Butler
Arthur Lee

181

Articles of a Treaty concluded at Fort Stanwix on the 22^{d} day of October ne Thousand Seven hundred and Eighty our between Oliver Wolcott, Richard Butler and Arthur Lee Commissioners Plenipotentiary from the United States in Congress Assembled on the One Part, nd the Sachems and Warriors of the ix Nations on the Other—

The United States of America give Peace to the Senecas, Mohawks, ~~Onanda~~, gas; and Cayugas, and receive them into the Protection of the United States upon the following Conditions—

Article First— Six Hostages shall be immediately delivered to the Commissioners of the United States by the said Nations to remain in the or Possession ~~Possession~~ ~~of the United States~~ till all the Prisoners white and black shall be delivered up.

Article Second— The Oniada and Tuscarora Tribes shall be secured in ~~their~~ the Possession of the Land, on which they are settled

Article Third— A Line shall be drawn beginning at the Mouth of a Creek about four Miles East of Niagara called Oyonwayea or

Johnson's Landing at a Place upon the
Lake ~~Erie~~ named by the Indians Oswego
by us Ontario from thence southerly in
a Direction always four miles east of the
carrying Path between Lake Erie and
Ontario to the Mouth of Tehoseroron
or Buffaloe Creek on Lake Erie, thence
South to the ~~southern~~ north Boundary of the
State of Pennsylvania, thence West
to the End of the North Boundary of the
thence South by the west Boundary thereof
said State to the River Ohio, the said
Line from the Mouth of Oyonwayea to
the Ohio shall be the western Boundary
of the Lands of the six Nations, so that
the ~~United States~~ six Nations shall and
do yield to the United States all Claims
to the Country West of the said Boundary
and then they shall be secured in the
peaceful Possession of the Lands they
inhabit East and North of the same reserving
only six Miles Square round the Fort of
Oswego for the support of the same

Articel Fourth — The Commissioners
of the United States in Consideration of
the present Circumstances of the six Nations
and in Execution of the humane and
liberal Views of the United States upon
the signing of the above Articles will

Order goods to be delivered to the said six Nations a for their use and comfort

Witnesses —

Samuel Atlee
William Maclay
Francis Johnson
Aaron Hill
Alexander Campbell
Samuel Kirkland
James Dean
James Montgomery
Daniel Lane
John Mercer
Will.m Pennington
Maylon Hord
Hugh Peebles

Oliver Wolcott Seal
Richard Butler
Arthur Lee

Onigwendahonji
Teuighnatogon
Mohawks

Oheadarighton
Thendarindgon
Onondagos

Tayagonendagighti
Tehonwaeaghrigagi
Seneca

Otyadonenghti
Dagaheari
Oneidas

~~Oriag~~
Oraghquenendagon
Cayuga

Ononghsawenghti
~~Thagondawa~~
Tharondawagon
Tuscororas

Thayenthoughki
Seneca or
Corn.t O Bail

The Names of the Hostages —

Capt Aaron Hill
Ohaundalighton
Thaunentale
Thayagouentagethe
Thonayute
Tuscuhaloané

THE CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Treaty Copy
&c

List of Indians at Fort Stanwix

dated October 22d. 1784

Oneidas	300
Coughnewagas	20
Ocquisasnes	21
Chasadarges	10
Colo. Louis's Family	15
Cranes do.	6
Capt. D Senikees	21
Oriscas	73
Onondagas	5
Cayugas	7
Tuscaroras	33
Shawnees	11
Moh~~awks~~ickans	25
Stockbridge	40
Missasaugas	7
Oneida Chiefs	2
Senecas	13
Fowlers Family	4
Total	613

The above is the number
present on the ground

Signed E Lonard

Articles of a Treaty Concluded at Fort Stanwix on the 22nd. Day of October 1784 — between Oliver Wolcott. Richard Butler and Arthur Lee Commiſsioners Plenipotentiary from the United States of America in Congreſs aſsembled on the one part and the Sachems & Warriors of the Six Nations on the other — The United States will give Peace to the Mohocks Onondagas Cayugas and Senecas & Receive them into their protection upon the following Conditions —

Article 1st Six Hostages shall be immediately delivered to the Commiſsioners by the said Nations to remain in the poſseſsion of the United States untill all the Prisoners white and Black which were taken by the said Mohocks Onondagas Cayugas and Senecas or any of them in the late War from among the Citizens of the United States shall be Delivered up.

Artle. 2nd. The Oneida and Tuscarora Nations shall be secured in the poſseſsion of the Lands on which they are Settled. —

Artle. 3 A Line shall be drawn beginning at the mouth of a Creek four miles east of Niagara called Oyonwayea or Johnsons Landing place upon the Lake named by the Indians Oswego and by us Ontario — from thence southerly in a Direction always four miles East of the Carrying place between Lake Erie and Ontario to the mouth of Tehoseroron or Buffalo Creek on Lake Erie thence South to the north Boundary of the State of Pennsylvania — thence west to the end of the said north boundary, thence south along the west boundary of the said State to the River Ohio —

The said Line from the mouth of Oyonwayea to the Ohio shall be the western boundary of the Lands of the Six Nations, so that the Six Nations shall and do yield to the United States all Claim to the Country west of the said Boundary and then they shall be Secured in the possession of the lands east and north of the same; reserving only six miles square round the Fort of Oswego to the United States for the support of the same —

Art. 4 The Commissioners of the United States in Consideration of the present Circumstances of the Six Nations and in execution of the humane and liberal Views of the United States upon the signing of the above four Articles will order Goods to be Delivered to the Six Nations for their use and Comfort —

Witnesses
Saml. Jo. Atlee
Wm. Maclay
Fras. Johnston } Commissrs.
Aaron Hill
Alexr. Campbell
Saml. Kirkland Missy.
James Dean
Saml. Montgomery
Derick Lane Capt.
John Mercer Lieut.
William Pennington Lieut.
Mahlon Hord Ensn.
Hugh Peebles —

Signd
Onondagas { Oheadarighton
Kendarindgon
Senecas { Tayagonendagighti
Tehonwaeaghrigage
Oneidas { Otyadonenghti
Dagaheari
Cayuga { Oraghgoanentagon
Tuscaroras { Ononghsawenghti
Tharondawagon
Seneca Abeal { Kayenthoghke
Mohawks { Onogwendahonwi
Touighnatogon

Signd
Oliver Wolcott
Richard Butler
Arthur Lee

Articles between the Commissioners
of the United States and the Chiefs
& Warriors of the Six Nations —

Octr 1

(167)

6

Articles of a Treaty concluded at Fort Stanwix, on the twenty-second day of October, one thousand ſeven hundred and eighty four, between Oliver Wolcott, Richard Butler and Arthur Lee, Commiſsioners plenipotentiary from the United States in Congreſs Aſsembled, on the one part, and the Sachems and Warriors of the Six Nations on the other.

The United States of America give peace to the Senecas, Mohawks, Onondagas and Cayugas, and receive them into their protection upon the following conditions.

Article 1. Six hostages shall be immediately delivered to the Commiſsioners by the said Nations, to remain in poſseſsion of the United States, till all the Priſoners white and black, which were taken by the said Senecas, Mohawks, Onondagas and Cayugas, or by any of them in the late War, from among the People of the United States, shall be delivered up.

Article 2. The Oneida and Tuſcarora Nations shall be secured in the Poſseſsion of the lands on which they are settled.

Article 3. A line shall be drawn, beginning at the mouth of a Creek about four miles east of Niagara, called Oyonwayea or Johnſon's landing place, upon the lake named by the Indians Oswego, and by us Ontario, to the mouth of Tehoseroron or Buffaloe creek on lake Erie, thence ſouth to the North boundary of the State of Penſylvania, thence west to the end of the ſaid North boundary, thence south along the west boundary of the said State, to the river Ohio, the said line from the mouth of the Oyonwayea to the Ohio, shall be the western boundary of the lands of the ſix Nations, ſo that the ſix Nations shall and do yield to the United States, all claims to the Country west of the ſaid boundary, and then they shall be secured in the peaceful poſseſsion of the lands they inhabit east and north of the ſame, reſerving only six miles ſquare round the Fort of Oswego, to the United States, for the ſupport of the ſame -

from thence ſoutherly in a direction always four miles east of the carrying path, between lake Erie and Ontario.

Article 4. The Commiſsioners of the United States in conſideration of the present circumstances of the ſaid six Nations, and in execution of the humane and liberal views of the United States upon the signing of the above Articles, will order goods to be delivered to the said ſix Nations for their use and comfort -

(Sign'd) Oliver Wolcott
Richard Butler
Arthur Lee

Senecas { Tayagonendagighti his + mark
Tehonwaeaghriyagi his + mark

Oneidas { Otyadonenghti his + mark
Dayaheri his + mark

Cayuga { Oraghgoanendagen his + mark

Tuſcarora { Onaaghsawenghti his + mark
Tharondawagen his + mark

Mohawks { Onogwendahonji his + mark
Touighnatogon his + mark

Onondagas { Oheadarighton his + mark
Kendarindgon his + mark

Seneca Abeal { Kayenthoghke his mark

Witneſses

Sam. Jo. Atlee
Wm. Maclay
Fran.s Johnston } Pensy. Commiſs.rs
Aaron Hill
Alexander Campbell
Sam.l Kirkland Miſs.y

James Dean
Sam.l Montgomery
Derick Lane Capt.
John Mercer Lieut.
William Pennington Lieut.
Mahlon Ford Ensign
Hugh Peebles

C

Articles of a Treaty concluded at Fort McIntosh the 21st day of January 1785, between the Commiſsioners Plenipotentiary of the United States of America of the one part, and the Sachems and Warriors of the Wiandot, Delaware, Chippawa and Ottawa Nations of the other

The Commiſsioners Plenipotentiary of the United States in Congreſs Aſsembled, give peace to the Wiandot, Delaware, Chippawa and Ottawa Nations of Indians, on the following Conditions.

Article 1. Three Chiefs, one from among the Wiandot, and two from among the Delaware Nations, shall be delivered up to the Commiſsioners of the United States, to be by them retained till all the Prisoners white and black taken by the said Nations or any of them, shall be restored.

6

Articles of a Treaty concluded at Fort Stanwix, on the twenty second day of October One thousand ſeven hundred and Eighty four; Between Oliver Wolcott, Richard Butler & Arthur Lee Commiſsioners Plenipotentiary from the United States in Congreſs Aſsembled on the one part, + and the Sachems and Warriors of the Six Nations on the other ——————

The United States of America, give peace to the Senecas, Mohawks, Onondagas & Cayugas, and receive them into their protection upon the following Conditions —

Article 1st Six Hostages shall be immediately delivered to the Commiſsioners by the said Nations to remain in poſseſsion of the United States till all the Priſoners White and Black which were taken by the ſaid Senecas, Mohawks, Onondagas & Cayugas, or by any of them, in the late War from among the people of the United States shall be delivered up B. ——————

Art. 2nd The Oneida and Tuscarora Nations shall be secured in the poſseſsion of the Lands on which they are ſettled ——————

Art. 3d A Line shall be drawn Beginning

at the mouth of a Creek about four miles East of Niagara called Oyonwayea or Johnson's Landing place upon the Lake named by the Indians Oswego and by us Ontario, from thence Southerly in a direction always four miles East of the carrying path between Lake Erie and Ontario to the mouth of Tehoseroron or Buffaloe Creek on Lake Erie, thence South to the north Boundary of the State of Pennsylvania, thence West to the end of the said North Boundary, thence South along the West Boundary of the said State, to the River Ohio, the said Line from the mouth of the Oyonwayea to the Ohio shall be the Western boundary of the Lands of the Six Nations, so that the Six Nations shall and do yield to the United States all Claims to the Country West of the said Boundary and then they shall be secured in the peaceful poſseſsion of the Lands they inhabit East & North of the ſame, reserving only six miles square round the Fort of Oswego to the United States for the support of the ſame. ——

Art. 4th. The Commiſsioners of the United States in consideration of the present Circumstances of the Six Nations and in execution of the humane and Liberal views of the United States, upon the ſigning of the above

Articles will order Goods to be delivered to the said Six Nations for their use and comfort.—

Witnesses

Sam. J. Atlee
Wm. Maclay
Fras. Johnson
Penns. Commrs
Aaron Hill
Alexander Campbell
Saml. Kirkland Missy.
James Dean
Saml. Montgomery
Derick Lane Capt.
John Mercer Lieut.
William Pennington Lieut.
Mahlon Ford Ensign
Hugh Peebles—

Mohawks
Onogwendahonji his + mark ○
Touighnatogon his + mark ○

Onondagas
Oheadarighton his + mark ○
Kindarindgon his + mark ○

Senecas
Tayagonendagighti his × mark ○
Tehonwaeaghriyagi his × mark ○

Oneidas
Otyadonenghti his × mark ○
Dagaheari his × mark ○

Cayugas
Oraghgoanendagen his × mark ○

Tuscarora
Ononghsawenghti his × mark ○
Tharondawagen his × mark ○

Seneca Abeal
Kayenthoghke his mark ○

Oliver Wolcott ○
Richard Butler ○
Arthur Lee ○

AMERICAN STATE PAPERS.

INDIAN AFFAIRS.

1st Congress.] **No. 1.** [1st Session.

THE SIX NATIONS, THE WYANDOTS, AND OTHERS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE MAY 25, 1789.

Gentlemen of the Senate:

In pursuance of the order of the late Congress, treaties between the United States and several nations of Indians, have been negotiated and signed. These treaties, with sundry papers respecting them, I now lay before you, for your consideration and advice, by the hands of General Knox, under whose official superintendence the business was transacted, and who will be ready to communicate to you any information on such points as may appear to require it.

GEO. WASHINGTON.

New York, *May* 25, 1789.

Articles of a Treaty made at fort Harmar, the ninth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-nine, between Arthur St. Clair, Esquire, Governor of the territory of the United States of America northwest of the river Ohio, and commissioner plenipotentiary of the said United States for removing all causes of controversy, regulating trade, and settling boundaries, between the Indian nations in the northern department, and the said United States, of the one part, and the sachems and warriors of the Six Nations, of the other part, viz.

Article 1. Whereas the United States, in Congress assembled, did, by their commissioners, Oliver Wolcott, Richard Butler, and Arthur Lee, Esquires, duly appointed for that purpose, at a treaty held with the said Six Nations, viz: with the Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Tuscaroras, Cayugas, and Senecas, at fort Stanwix, on the twenty-second day of October, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-four, give peace to the said nations, and receive them into their friendship and protection: And whereas the said nations have now agreed, to and with the said Arthur St. Clair, to renew and confirm all the engagements and stipulations entered into at the before mentioned treaty at fort Stanwix: And whereas it was then and there agreed, between the United States of America and the said Six Nations, that a boundary line should be fixed between the lands of the said Six Nations and the territory of the said United States, which boundary line is as follows, viz: Beginning at the mouth of a creek, about four miles east of Niagara, called Ononwayea, or Johnston's Landing Place, upon the lake named by the Indians Oswego, and by us Ontario; from thence southerly, in a direction always four miles east of the carrying place, between lake Erie and lake Ontario, to the mouth of Tehoseroron, or Buffalo creek, upon lake Erie; thence south, to the northern boundary of the State of Pennsylvania; thence west, to the end of the said north boundary; thence south, along the west boundary of the said State, to the river Ohio. The said line, from the mouth of Ononwayea to the Ohio, shall be the western boundary of the lands of the Six Nations, so that the Six Nations shall and do yield to the United States, all claim to the country west of the said boundary; and then they shall be secured in the possession of the lands they inhabit east, north, and south of the same, reserving only six miles square, round the fort of Oswego, for the support of the same. The said Six Nations, except the Mohawks, none of whom have attended at this time, for and in consideration of the peace then granted to them, the presents they then received, as well as in consideration of a quantity of goods, to the value of three thousand dollars, now delivered to them by the said Arthur St. Clair, the receipt whereof they do hereby acknowledge, do hereby renew and confirm the said boundary line in the words before mentioned, to the end that it may be and remain as a division line between the lands of the said Six Nations and the territory of the United States, forever. And the undersigned Indians, as well in their own names as in the name of their respective tribes and nations, their heirs and descendants, for the considerations before mentioned, do release, quit claim, relinquish, and cede, to the United States of America, all the lands west of the said boundary or division line, and between the said line and the strait, from the mouth of Ononwayea and Buffalo creek, for them, the said United States of America, to have and to hold the same, in true and absolute propriety, forever.

Article 2. The United States of America confirm to the Six Nations, all the lands which they inhabit, lying east and north of the before mentioned boundary line, and relinquish and quit claim to the same and every part thereof, excepting only six miles square round the fort of Oswego, which six miles square round said fort is again reserved to the United States by these presents.

Article 3. The Oneida and Tuscarora nations are also again secured and confirmed in the possession of their respective lands.

Article 4. The United States of America renew and confirm the peace and friendship entered into with the Six Nations, (except the Mohawks) at the treaty before mentioned, held at fort Stanwix, declaring the same to be perpetual. And if the Mohawks shall, within six months, declare their assent to the same, they shall be considered as included.

Done at fort Harmar, on the Muskingum, the day and year first above written.

In witness whereof, the parties have hereunto, interchangeably, set their hands and seals.

AR. ST. CLAIR.

[Signed by twenty-four of the sachems and warriors of the Six Nations of Indians.]

SEPARATE ARTICLE OF THE PRECEDING TREATY.

Should a robbery or murder be committed by an Indian or Indians of the Six Nations, upon the citizens or subjects of the United States, or by the citizens or subjects of the United States, or any of them, upon any of the Indians of the said nations, the parties accused of the same shall be tried, and if found guilty, be punished according to the laws of the State, or of the Territory of the United States, as the case may be, where the same was committed. And should any horses be stolen, either by the Indians of the said nations, from the citizens or subjects of the United States, or any of them, or by any of the said citizens or subjects from any of the said Indians, they may be reclaimed, into whose possession soever they may have come; and, upon due proof, shall be restored, any sale in open market notwithstanding, and the persons convicted shall be punished with the utmost severity the laws will admit. And the said nations engage to deliver the persons that may be accused, of their nations, of either of the before mentioned crimes, at the nearest post of the United States, if the crime was committed within the territory of the United States; or to the civil authority of the State, if it shall have happened within any of the United States.

AR. ST. CLAIR.

Articles of a Treaty made at fort Harmar, between Arthur St. Clair, Governor of the territory of the United States northwest of the river Ohio, and commissioner plenipotentiary of the United States of America for removing all causes of controversy, regulating trade, and settling boundaries, with the Indian nations in the Northern department, of the one part, and the sachems and warriors of the Wyandot, Delaware, Ottawa, Chippewa, Pattawatima, and Sac nations, on the other part.

ARTICLE 1. Whereas the United States, in Congress assembled, did, by their commissioners, George Rogers Clarke, Richard Butler, and Arthur Lee, Esquires, duly appointed for that purpose, at a treaty holden with the Wyandot, Delaware, Ottawa, and Chippewa nations, at fort McIntosh, on the twenty-first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-five, conclude a peace with the Wyandots, Delawares, Ottawas, and Chippewas, and take them into their friendship and protection: And whereas, at the said treaty, it was stipulated that all prisoners that had been made by those nations, or either of them, should be delivered up to the United States: And whereas the said nations have now agreed, to and with the aforesaid Arthur St. Clair, to renew and confirm all the engagements they had made with the United States of America, at the before mentioned treaty, except so far as are altered by these presents: And there are now in the possession of some individuals of these nations, certain prisoners, who have been taken by others, not in peace with the said United States, or in violation of the treaties subsisting between the United States and them; the said nations agree to deliver up all the prisoners now in their hands (by what means soever they may have come into their possession) to the said Governor St. Clair, at Fort Harmar; or, in his absence, to the officer commanding there, as soon as conveniently may be; and, for the true performance of this agreement, they do now agree to deliver into his hands, two persons of the Wyandot nation, to be retained in the hands of the United States, as hostages, until the said prisoners are restored; after which, they shall be sent back to their nation.

ART. 2. And whereas, at the before mentioned treaty, it was agreed, between the United States and said nations, that a boundary line should be fixed between the lands of those nations and the territory of the United States, which boundary is as follows, viz: Beginning at the mouth of Cayahoga river, and running thence, up the said river, to the portage between that and the Tuscarawa branch of Muskingum; then, down the said branch, to the forks at the crossing place above fort Lawrence; thence, westerly, to the portage on that branch of the Big Miami river which runs into the Ohio, at the mouth of which branch the fort stood which was taken by the French in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and fifty-two; then, along the said portage, to the Great Miami or Omie river, and, down the southeast side of the same, to its mouth; thence, along the southern shore of Lake Erie, to the mouth of Cayahoga, where it began. And the said Wyandot, Delaware, Ottawa, and Chippewa nations, for and in consideration of the peace then granted to them by the said United States, and the presents they then received, as well as of a quantity of goods, to the value of six thousand dollars, now delivered to them by the said Arthur St. Clair, the receipt whereof they do hereby acknowledge, do, by these presents, renew and confirm the said boundary line; to the end that the same may remain as a division line between the lands of the United States of America and the lands of said nations, forever. And the undersigned Indians do hereby, in their own names, and the names of their respective nations and tribes, their heirs and descendants, for the consideration above mentioned, release, quit claim, relinquish, and cede, to the said United States, all the land east, south, and west, of the lines above described, so far as the said Indians formerly claimed the same; for them, the said United States, to have and to hold the same, in true and absolute propriety, forever.

ART. 3. The United States of America do, by these presents, relinquish and quit claim to the said nations respectively, all the lands lying between the limits above described, for them, the said Indians, to live and hunt upon, and otherwise to occupy as they shall see fit; but the said nations, or either of them, shall not be at liberty to sell or dispose of the same, or any part thereof, to any sovereign Power, except the United States; nor to the subjects or citizens of any other sovereign Power, nor to the subjects or citizens of the United States.

ART. 4. It is agreed, between the said United States and the said nations, that the individuals of said nations shall be at liberty to hunt within the territory ceded to the United States, without hindrance or molestation, so long as they demean themselves peaceably, and offer no injury or annoyance to any of the subjects or citizens of the said United States.

ART. 5. It is agreed, that, if any Indian or Indians, of the nations before mentioned, shall commit a murder or robbery on any of the citizens of the United States, the nation or tribe to which the offender belongs, on complaint being made, shall deliver up the person or persons complained of, at the nearest post of the United States; to the end that he or they may be tried, and, if found guilty, punished according to the laws established in the territory of the United States northwest of the river Ohio, for the punishment of such offences, if the same shall have been committed within the said territory; or according to the laws of the State where the offence may have been committed, if the same has happened in any of the United States. In like manner, if any subject or citizen of the United States shall commit murder or robbery on any Indian or Indians of the said nations, upon complaint being made thereof, he or they shall be arrested, tried, and punished, agreeable to the laws of the State, or of the territory wherein the offence was committed; that nothing may interrupt the peace and harmony now established between the United States and said nations.

ART. 6. And whereas the practice of stealing horses has prevailed very much, to the great disquiet of the citizens of the United States, and, if persisted in, cannot fail to involve both the United States of America and the Indians in endless animosity, it is agreed that it shall be put an entire stop to on both sides; nevertheless, should some individuals, in defiance of this agreement, and of the laws provided against such offences, continue to make depredations of that nature, the person convicted thereof shall be punished with the utmost severity the laws of the respective States, or territory of the United States northwest of the Ohio, where the offence may have been commit-trial, will admit of; and all horses so stolen, either by the Indians, from the citizens or subjects of the United States, or by the citizens or subjects of the United States from any of the Indian nations, may be reclaimed, into whose possession soever they may have passed, and, upon due proof, shall be restored; any sales in market ouvert notwithstanding. And the civil magistrates in the United States, respectively, and in the territory of the United States northwest of the Ohio, shall give all necessary aid and protection to Indians claiming such stolen horses.

Art. 7. Trade shall be opened with the said nations, and they do hereby respectively engage to afford protection to the persons and property of such as may be duly licensed to reside among them for the purposes of trade, and to their agents, factors, and servants; but no person shall be permitted to reside at their towns, or at their hunting camps, as a trader, who is not furnished with a licence for that purpose, under the hand and seal of the Governor of the territory of the United States northwest of the Ohio, for the time being, or under the hand and seal of one of his deputies for the management of Indian affairs; to the end that they may not be imposed upon in their traffic. And if any person, or persons, shall intrude themselves without such licence, they promise to apprehend him, or them, and to bring them to the said Governor, or one of his deputies, for the purpose before mentioned, to be dealt with according to law: and that they may be defended against persons who might attempt to forge such licences, they further engage to give information to the said Governor, or one of his deputies, of the names of all traders residing among them, from time to time, and at least once in every year.

Art. 8. Should any nation of Indians meditate a war against the United States, or either of them, and the same shall come to the knowledge of the before mentioned nations, or either of them, they do hereby engage to give immediate notice thereof to the Governor, or, in his absence, to the officer commanding the troops of the United States at the nearest post. And should any nation, with hostile intentions against the United States, or either of them, attempt to pass through their country, they will endeavor to prevent the same, and in like manner give information of such attempt to the said Governor, or commanding officer, as soon as possible, that all causes of mistrust and suspicion may be avoided between them and the United States; in like manner, the United States shall give notice to the said Indian nations, of any harm that may be meditated against them, or either of them, that shall come to their knowledge; and do all in their power to hinder and prevent the same, that the friendship between them may be uninterrupted.

Art. 9. If any person or persons, citizens or subjects of the United States, or any other person, not being an Indian, shall presume to settle upon the lands confirmed to the said nations, he and they shall be out of the protection of the United States; and the said nations may punish him, or them, in such manner as they see fit.

Art. 10. The United States renew the reservations heretofore made in the before mentioned treaty at fort M'Intosh, for the establishment of trading posts, in manner and form following; that is to say: six miles square at the mouth of the Miami or Omie rivers; six miles square at the portage upon that branch of the Miami which runs into the Ohio; six miles square upon the lake Sandusky, where the fort formerly stood; and two miles square upon each side the Lower Rapids, on Sandusky river: which posts, and the lands annexed to them, shall be for the use and under the Government of the United States.

Art. 11. The post at Detroit, with a district of land beginning at the mouth of the river Rosine, at the west end of lake Erie, and running up the southern bank of said river six miles; thence northerly, and always six miles west of the strait, until it strikes the lake St. Clair, shall be reserved for the use of the United States.

Art. 12. In like manner, the post at Michilimackinac, with its dependencies, and twelve miles square about the same, shall be reserved to the sole use of the United States.

Art. 13. The United States of America do hereby renew and confirm the peace and friendship entered into with the said nations, at the treaty before mentioned, held at fort M'Intosh; and the said nations again acknowledge themselves, and all their tribes, to be under the protection of the said United States, and no other Power whatever.

Art. 14. The United States of America do also receive into their friendship and protection, the nations of the Pattawatimas and Sacs; and do hereby establish a league of peace and amity between them, respectively; and all the articles of this treaty, so far as they apply to these nations, are to be considered as made and concluded in all, and every part, expressly with them and each of them.

Art. 15. And whereas, in describing the boundary before mentioned, the words, if strictly constructed, would carry it from the portage on that branch of the Miami which runs into the Ohio, over to the river Auglaize; which was neither the intention of the Indians, nor of the commissioners; it is hereby declared, that the line shall run from the said portage directly to the first fork of the Miami river, which is to the southward and eastward of the Miami village; thence down the main branch of the Miami river to the said village, and thence down that river to lake Erie, and along the margin of the lake to the place of beginning.

Done at fort Harmar, on the Muskingum, this ninth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-nine.

In witness whereof, the parties have hereunto interchangeably set their hands and seals.

AR. ST. CLAIR.

[Signed by the sachems and warriors of the Sac, Chippewa, Ottawa, Pattawatami, Delaware, and Wyandot tribes of Indians.]

Be it remembered, that the Wyandots have laid claim to the lands that were granted to the Shawnees at the treaty held at the Miami; and have declared, that, as the Shawnees have been so restless, and caused so much trouble, both to them and to the United States, if they will not now be at peace, they will dispossess them, and take the country into their own hands; for that the country is theirs of right, and the Shawanees are only living upon it by their permission. They further lay claim to all the country west of the Miami boundary, from the village to the lake Erie, and declare that it is now under their management and direction.

SEPARATE ARTICLE.

Whereas the Wyandots have represented, that within the reservation from the river Rosine, along the strait, they have two villages, from which they cannot, with any convenience, remove; it is agreed, they shall remain in possession of the same, and shall not be in any manner disturbed therein.

The Secretary of War to the President of the United States.

The Secretary of War, having examined the negotiations of the Governor of the Western territory, with certain Northern and Northwestern Indians, and the treaties made in consequence thereof, at fort Harmar, on the 9th of January, 1789, begs leave to report:

That the several Treaties of Peace which have been made with the Northern tribes of Indians, and those northwest of the Ohio, since the conclusion of the late war with Great Britain, are as follows, to wit:

1st. The treaty at fort Stanwix, on the 22d day of October, 1784, between Oliver Wolcott, Richard Butler, and Arthur Lee, commissioners plenipotentiary from the United States, on the one part, and the sachems and warriors of the Six Nations, on the other.

2d. The treaty entered into by the said commissioners plenipotentiary, and the sachems and warriors of the Wyandot, Delaware, Chippewa, and Ottawa nations of Indians, at fort McIntosh, the 21st day of January, 1785.

3d. The treaty at the mouth of the great Miami, the 31st of January 1786, between commissioners from the United States, and the Chiefs and Warriors of the Shawanee nation.

That the treaties of fort Stanwix and fort McIntosh were entered on the journals of the United States, in Congress assembled, June the 3d, 1785, and the treaty of the Miami, on the 17th day of April 1786.

That it may be proper to observe, that the Indians are greatly tenacious of their lands, and generally do not relinquish their right, excepting on the principle of a specific consideration, expressly given for the purchase of the same.

That the practice of the late English colonies and government, in purchasing the Indian claims, has firmly established the habit in this respect, so that it cannot be violated but with difficulty, and an expense greatly exceeding the value of the object.

That the treaties of fort Stanwix and of fort McIntosh do not state that the limits therein defined are by virtue of a purchase from the Indians.

That the said treaties have been opposed, and complained of, will appear by the representation to Congress, accompanying this report, marked No. 1.

That, in consequence of the said representation, Congress, on the 21st day of July, 1787, passed the following resolve:

"*Resolved*, That the Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Northern department, inform the five nations, the Hurons, and other Indian nations, who joined in the representation made to Congress, dated the 18th day of December, 1786, that Congress, on the 18th of the present month, July, 1787, received their said representation, and have taken it into their serious consideration, and, in due time, will send them an answer."

That, on the 5th of October following, Congress resolved:

"That a general treaty be held with the tribes of Indians within the limits of the United States, inhabiting the country northwest of the Ohio, and about Lake Erie, as soon after the first of April next as conveniently may be, and at such place, and at such particular time, as the Governor of the Western Territory shall appoint, for the purpose of knowing the causes of uneasiness among the said tribes, and hearing their complaints, of regulating trade, and amicably settling all affairs concerning lands and boundaries, between them and the United States.

"That the Governor of the Western Territory hold the said treaty agreeably to such instructions as shall be given him for that purpose."

That, on the 12th of October, 1787, Congress resolved:

"That twenty thousand dollars be, and hereby are, appropriated for the purpose of Indian treaties, whenever the same shall hereafter be judged necessary by a majority of the United States, in Congress assembled, and that the resolutions for holding a general treaty with the Indians, passed the fifth day of the present month, be, and they are hereby, repealed."

That on the 22d of October, 1787, Congress resolved:

"That the Governor of the Western Territory be, and he is hereby, empowered to hold a general treaty with the Indian tribes in the ensuing spring, if, in his judgment, the public good requires it; and that he be authorized to draw for such sums of money, appropriated by the resolve of Congress of the 12th instant, as may be necessary to effect this object, not exceeding the sum of fourteen thousand dollars."

That, on the 2d of July, 1788, Congress resolved:

"That the sum of twenty thousand dollars, in addition to the fourteen thousand dollars already appropriated, be appropriated for defraying the expenses of the treaties which have been ordered, or which may be ordered to be held on the present year, with the several Indian tribes in the Northern department, and for extinguishing the Indian claims; the whole of the said twenty thousand dollars, together with six thousand dollars of the said fourteen thousand dollars, to be applied solely to the purpose of extinguishing Indian claims to the lands they have already ceded to the United States, by obtaining regular conveyances for the same, and for extending a purchase beyond the limits hitherto fixed by treaty; but that no part of the said sums be applied for any purpose other than those above mentioned."

That the instructions to the Governor of the Western Territory, marked No. 2, will further show the sense of Congress on this subject.

That the treaties of fort Harmar, on the 9th of January, 1789, with the sachems and warriors of the Six Nations, the Mohawks excepted, and with the Sachems and Warriors of the Wyandot, Delaware, Ottawa, Chippewa, Pattiwatima, and Sac nations, inhabiting parts of the country northwest of the Ohio, appear to have been negotiated by the Governor of the Western Territory, so as to unite the interests of the United States with the justice due the said Indian nations.

That the reservation in the treaty with the Six Nations, of six miles square, round the fort at Oswego, is within the territory of the State of New York, and ought to be so explained as to render it conformable to the constitution of the United States.

That, if this explanation should be made, and the Senate of the United States should concur in their approbation of the said treaties, it might be proper that the same should be ratified, and published, with a proclamation enjoining an observance thereof.

All which is humbly submitted to the President of the United States.

H. KNOX.

War Office, *May 23d*, 1789.

No. 1.

Speech of the United Indian Nations, at their Confederate Council, held near the mouth of the Detroit river, the 28th November and 18th December, 1786.

Present—The Five Nations, the Hurons, Delawares, Shawanese, Ottawas, Chippewas, Powtewattimies, Twichtwees, Cherokees, and the Wabash confederates.

To the Congress of the United States of America:

Brethren of the United States of America: It is now more than three years since peace was made between the King of Great Britain and you, but we, the Indians, were disappointed, finding ourselves not included in that peace, according to our expectations: for we thought that its conclusion would have promoted a friendship between the United States and Indians, and that we might enjoy that happiness that formerly subsisted between us and our elder brethren. We have received two very agreeable messages from the thirteen United States. We also received a message from the King, whose war we were engaged in, desiring us to remain quiet, which we accordingly complied with. During the time of this tranquillity, we were deliberating the best method we could to form a lasting reconciliation with the thirteen United States. Pleased at the same time, we thought we were entering upon a reconciliation and friendship with a set of people born on the same continent with ourselves, certain that the quarrel between us was not of our own making. In the course of our councils, we imagined we hit upon an expedient that would promote a lasting peace between us.

Brothers: We still are of the same opinion as to the means which may tend to reconcile us to each other; and we are sorry to find, although we had the best thoughts in our minds, during the beforementioned period, mischief has, nevertheless, happened between you and us. We are still anxious of putting our plan of accommodation into execution, and we shall briefly inform you of the means that seem most probable to us of effecting a firm and lasting peace and reconciliation: the first step towards which should, in our opinion, be, that all treaties carried on with the United States, on our parts, should be with the general voice of the whole confederacy, and carried on in the most open manner, without any restraint on either side; and especially as landed matters are often the subject of our councils with you, a matter of the greatest importance and of general concern to us, in this case we hold it indispensably necessary that any cession of our lands should be made in the most public manner, and by the united voice of the confederacy; holding all partial treaties as void and of no effect.

Brothers: We think it is owing to you that the tranquillity which, since the peace between us, has not lasted, and that that essential good has been followed by mischief and confusion, having managed every thing respecting us your own way. You kindled your council fires where you thought proper, without consulting us, at which you held separate treaties, and have entirely neglected our plan of having a general conference with the different nations of the confederacy. Had this happened, we have reason to believe every thing would now have been settled between us in a most friendly manner. We did every thing in our power, at the treaty of fort Stanwix, to induce you to follow this plan, as our real intentions were, at that very time, to promote peace and concord between us, and that we might look upon each other as friends, having given you no cause or provocation to be otherwise.

Brothers: Notwithstanding the mischief that has happened, we are still sincere in our wishes to have peace and tranquillity established between us, earnestly hoping to find the same inclination in you. We wish, therefore, you would take it into serious consideration, and let us speak to you in the manner we proposed. Let us have a treaty with you early in the spring; let us pursue reasonable steps; let us meet half ways, for our mutual convenience; we shall then bring in oblivion the misfortunes that have happened, and meet each other on a footing of friendship.

Brothers: We say let us meet half way, and let us pursue such steps as become upright and honest men. We beg that you will prevent your surveyors and other people from coming upon our side the Ohio river. We have told you before, we wished to pursue just steps, and we are determined they shall appear just and reasonable in the eyes of the world. This is the determination of all the chiefs of our confederacy now assembled here, notwithstanding the accidents that have happened in our villages, even when in council, where several innocent chiefs were killed when absolutely engaged in promoting a peace with you, the thirteen United States.

Although then interrupted, the chiefs here present still wish to meet you in the spring, for the beforementioned good purpose, when we hope to speak to each other without either haughtiness or menaces.

Brothers: We again request of you, in the most earnest manner, to order your surveyors and others, that mark out lands, to cease from crossing the Ohio, until we shall have spoken to you, because the mischief that has recently happened has originated in that quarter; we shall likewise prevent our people from going over until that time.

Brothers: It shall not be our faults if the plans which we have suggested to you should not be carried into execution; in that case the event will be very precarious, and if fresh ruptures ensue, we hope to be able to exculpate ourselves, and shall most assuredly, with our united force, be obliged to defend those rights and privileges which have been transmitted to us by our ancestors; and if we should be thereby reduced to misfortunes, the world will pity us when they think of the amicable proposals we now make to prevent the unnecessary effusion of blood. These are our thoughts and firm resolves, and we earnestly desire that you will transmit to us, as soon as possible, your answer, be it what it may.

Done at our Confederated Council Fire, at the Huron village, near the mouth of the Detroit river, December 18th, 1786.

The Five Nations,
Hurons, Ottawas, Twichtwees, Shawanese,
Chippewas, Cherokees, Delawares,
Powtewatimies, The Wabash Confederates.

No. 2.

October 26th, 1787.

Instructions to the Governor of the Territory of the United States Northwest of the river Ohio, relative to an Indian treaty in the Northern Department.

Sir:

You are carefully to examine into the real temper of the Indian tribes, inhabiting the Northern Indian Department of the United States. If you find it hostile, and that the welfare of the frontiers, and the settlements forming in that country, demand a treaty, you will then, in conjunction with the Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Northern Department, unless the attendance of the said superintendent shall be prevented, by any unforeseen event, hold as general a one as you can, with all the tribes.

The primary objects of the treaty are, the removing all causes of controversy, so that peace and harmony may continue between the United States and the Indian tribes, the regulating trade, and settling boundaries. For these purposes, you will do every thing that is right and proper.

The treaties which have been made, may be examined, but must not be departed from, unless a change of boundary, beneficial to the United States, can be obtained.

Although the purchase of the Indian right of soil is not a primary object of holding this treaty, yet you will not neglect any opportunity that may offer, of extinguishing the Indian rights to the westward, as far as the river Mississippi.

You may stipulate, that the East and West line ordered to be run by the ordinance of the 20th of May, 1785, shall be the boundary between the United States and the Indian tribes: provided, they stipulate that it shall run throughout, unto the river Mississippi. And you may stipulate, that any white persons going over the said boundary, without a licence from the proper officer of the United States, may be treated in such manner as the Indians shall think proper.

You will use every possible endeavor to ascertain who are the real head men and warriors of the several tribes, and who have the greatest influence among them; these men you will attach to the United States, by every means in your power.

Every exertion must be made to defeat all confederations and combinations among the tribes, and to conciliate the white people inhabiting the frontiers, towards them.

CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary.*

July 2d, 1788.

Additional instructions to the Governor of the Territory of the United States Northwest of the river Ohio, relative to the treaty to be held with the Western Indians, in pursuance of the resolutions of Congress, passed in October last.

Sir:

An additional sum of twenty thousand dollars has been appropriated for the purpose of procuring a permanent peace with the Indian tribes, with which you are authorized to hold a treaty. This sum, and six thousand dollars out of the fourteen thousand heretofore appropriated for holding the said treaty, are particularly directed to be applied solely to the purpose of obtaining a boundary advantageous to the United States, between them and the said Indian tribes, and for further extinguishing by purchase Indian titles, in case it can be done on terms beneficial to the Union.

But it is not expected that any further purchases of lands will be made unless on terms evidently advantageous to the United States, or that any part of the said additional sum will be expended, but in cases apparently necessary.

In fixing a boundary between the United States and the Indian tribes, instead of the East and West line mentioned in your instructions, you will endeavor to establish an east and west line as far north as the completion of the forty first degree of north latitude.

In your negotiations with the Indians, you will make immediate payments, so far as you shall have moneys in hand; but, in case you shall find it necessary to engage any considerable part of the said additional sum, you are to stipulate, that the payments thereof be made in two or three equal annual instalments, the first to be as late in the year 1789, as can be obtained.

CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary.*

The Governor of the Western Territory to the President of the United States.

NEW YORK, *May* 2d, 1788.

SIR:

I have the honor to lay before you the treaties concluded, in pursuance of the instructions received from Congress on the twenty sixth of October, 1787, and second of July, 1788, with several of the Indian nations, in January last. That they were not presented at an earlier period, was owing, in part, to my own indisposition; to the severity of the winter, which rendered the communication by the Ohio, for a long time impracticable; and to the circumstance that the last Congress did not assemble after it was in my power to have sent them forward.

With the treaties, I beg leave to submit the minutes of the proceedings at the different meetings, after the nations were assembled, and I have added to them, by way of appendix, all the letters and messages that passed between them and me prior to their assembling. These were communicated to the Secretary of War, from time to time, and though they will, no doubt, be submitted by him to your consideration, I thought it best, as they form a considerable part of the transactions, to connect them in that way, that the whole might be seen together.

By the instruction of July the second, I was directed to endeavor at extending the northern boundary, as far north as the completion of the forty first degree of north latitude. Besides that it would have been extremely difficult to have made the Indians comprehend how that was to be ascertained, I found that any attempt to extend the limits at that time, would be very ill received, if not defeat entirely the settling a peace with them; it was therefore not proposed, and the boundaries remain as settled at the former treaties, except the rectifying an error about the portage at the Miami village.

The negotiation was both tedious and troublesome, and for a long time had an unpromising aspect, but it came at last to as favorable an issue as could have been expected; and I trust will be attended with consequences friendly to the frontier parts of the United States. There are, however, several nations on the Wabash, and the rivers which empty themselves into it, that are ill disposed, and from whom there is reason to expect, that a part of the frontier of Virginia, and the settlement forming on the Miami, will meet annoyance; indeed, that they have not been disturbed during the winter was not expected, either by me or the chiefs of the nations, who met me at fort Harmar. The Wyandots did appoint persons to go to them, and inform them of the result of the treaty, and insist upon their desisting from further hostilities, which may have had some effect in producing the late tranquillity.

The claim of the Wyandot nation to the lands reserved to the Shawanese, was strongly insisted upon by them, and to be made an article of the treaty—to that I could not consent; but, to satisfy them, and that it might be kept in remembrance, it is inserted at the bottom of it, by way of memorandum. It seems this is a claim that has always been held up, and the reason it was so much insisted on at this time, they said, was, that they were sure that the Shawanese, and Cherokees incorporated with them, would continue to give us trouble; that it could not be expected to be borne with much longer; that they would be driven out of the country, and then it would be claimed and held by the United States, by right of conquest; they farther added, that, if the Shawanese continued their depredations, they would themselves drive them off. They also proposed that a post should be taken by the United States, at the Miami village, as the surest means to overawe the nations on the Wabash. It is certainly well situated for that purpose, and would command the greatest part of the Indian trade. As it was very uncertain whether Congress might approve of such a measure, as a post so far inland, would with difficulty be supported, and were in no readiness to carry it into execution, if it should be approved, I desired them to consider well, whether it could be done without a contest with the Indians who live there; and whether, in that case, there was not danger of they themselves being involved, through the ungovernableness of their young men. They acknowledged they thought there was danger of both, but promised to send some of their principal men to the Miamies, and prepare them for receiving a garrison peaceably, and are to give me notice in the spring.

The reason why the treaties were made separately with the Six Nations and the Wyandots, and more westerly tribes, was, a jealousy that subsisted between them, which I was not willing to lessen, by appearing to consider them as one people—they do not so consider themselves; and I am persuaded their general confederacy is entirely broken: indeed, it would not be very difficult, if circumstances required it, to set them at deadly variance.

The great length of time that elapsed between the appointed period for the meeting, and that at which the Indians assembled, during which, numbers of them were constantly going and coming, has increased the expense in the article of provisions considerably; the utmost possible economy, however, was used through the whole of the business, and, in transacting it, I flatter myself with meeting the approbation of Congress.

With the utmost respect, I have the honor to be, &c.

AR. ST. CLAIR.

The PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

[The three following are the treaties first referred to in the report of the Secretary of War:]

Articles of a Treaty concluded at fort Stanwix, on the twenty-second day of October, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-four, between Oliver Wolcott, Richard Butler, and Arthur Lee, commissioners plenipotentiary from the United States, in Congress assembled, on the one part, and the sachems and warriors of the Six Nations, on the other.

The United States of America give peace to the Senecas, Mohawks, Onondagas, and Cayugas, and receive them into their protection, upon the following conditions:

ARTICLE 1. Six hostages shall be immediately delivered to the commissioners by the said nations, to remain in possession of the United States till all the prisoners, white and black, which were taken by the said Senecas, Mohawks, Onondagas, and Cayugas, or by any of them, in the late war, from among the people of the United States, shall be delivered up.

ART. 2. The Oneida and Tuscarora nations shall be secured in the possession of the lands on which they are settled.

ART. 3. A line shall be drawn, beginning at the mouth of a creek about four miles east of Niagara, called Oyonwayea, or Johnston's Landing Place, upon the lake named by the Indians Oswego, and by us Ontario; from thence southerly, in a direction always four miles east of the carrying path, between lakes Erie and Ontario, to the mouth of Tehoseroron, or Buffalo creek, on lake Erie; thence south, to the north boundary of the State of Pennsylvania; thence west, to the end of the said north boundary; thence south, along the west boundary of the said State, to the river Ohio; the said line, from the mouth of the Oyonwayea to the Ohio, shall be the western boundary of the lands of the Six Nations; so that the Six Nations shall and do yield to the United States, all claims to the country west of the said boundary; and then they shall be secured in the peaceful possession of the lands they inhabit, east and north of the same, reserving only six miles square round the fort of Oswego, to the United States, for the support of the same.

ART. 4. The commissioners of the United States, in consideration of the present circumstances of the Six Nations, and in execution of the humane and liberal views of the United States, upon the signing of the above articles, will order goods to be delivered to the said Six Nations, for their use and comfort.

OLIVER WOLCOTT,
RICHARD BUTLER,
ARTHUR LEE.

[Signed by the sachems and warriors of the Mohawk, Onondaga, Seneca, Oneida, Cayuga, Tuscarora, and Seneca Abeal tribes of Indians.]

Articles of a Treaty concluded at fort McIntosh, the twenty-first day of January, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-five, between the commissioners plenipotentiary of the United States of America, of the one part, and the sachems and warriors of the Wyandot, Delaware, Chippewa, and Ottawa nations, of the other.

The commissioners plenipotentiary of the United States, in Congress assembled, give peace to the Wyandot, Delaware, Chippewa, and Ottawa nations of Indians, on the following conditions:

ARTICLE 1. Three chiefs, one from among the Wyandot, and two from among the Delaware nations, shall be delivered up to the commissioners of the United States, to be by them retained till all the prisoners, white and black, taken by the said nations, or any of them, shall be restored.

ART. 2. The said Indian nations do acknowledge themselves and all their tribes to be under the protection of the United States, and of no other sovereign whatsoever.

ART. 3. The boundary line between the United States and the Wyandot and Delaware nations, shall begin at the mouth of the river Cayahoga, and run thence, up the said river, to the portage between that and the Tuscarawas branch of Muskingum; then down the said branch to the forks at the crossing place above fort Lawrence; then westerly to the portage of the Big Miami, which runs into the Ohio, at the mouth of which branch the fort stood, which was taken by the French in one thousand seven hundred and fifty-two; then along the said portage to the Great Miami or Omie river, and down the southeast side of the same to its mouth; thence, along the south shore of lake Erie, to the mouth of Cayahoga, where it began.

ART. 4. The United States allot all the lands contained within the said lines to the Wyandot and Delaware nations, to live and to hunt on, and to such of the Ottawa nation as now live thereon; saving and reserving for the establishment of trading posts, six miles square at the mouth of Miami or Omie river, and the same at the portage on that branch of the Big Miami which runs into the Ohio, and the same on the lake of Sandusky, where the fort formerly stood, and also two miles square on each side of the lower rapids of Sandusky river, which posts, and the lands annexed to them, shall be to the use and under the government of the United States.

ART. 5. If any citizen of the United States, or other person, not being an Indian, shall attempt to settle on any of the lands allotted to the Wyandot and Delaware nations in this treaty, except on the lands reserved to the United States in the preceding article, such person shall forfeit the protection of the United States, and the Indians may punish him as they please.

ART. 6. The Indians who sign this treaty, as well in behalf of all their tribes as of themselves, do acknowledge the lands east, south, and west, of the lines described in the third article, so far as the said Indians formerly claimed the same, to belong to the United States; and none of their tribes shall presume to settle upon the same, or any part of it.

ART. 7. The post of Detroit, with a district, beginning at the mouth of the river Rosine, on the west end of lake Erie, and running west six miles up the southern bank of the said river, thence northerly and always six miles west of the strait, till it strikes the lake St. Clair, shall be also reserved to the sole use of the United States.

ART. 8. In the same manner, the post of Michilimackinac, with its dependencies, and twelve miles square about the same, shall be reserved to the use of the United States.

ART. 9. If any Indian or Indians shall commit a robbery or murder on any citizen of the United States, the tribe to which such offenders may belong, shall be bound to deliver them up at the nearest post, to be punished according to the ordinances of the United States.

ART. 10. The commissioners of the United States, in pursuance of the humane and liberal views of Congress, upon this treaty's being signed, will direct goods to be distributed among the different tribes for their use and comfort.

SEPARATE ARTICLE.

It is agreed that the Delaware chiefs, Kelelamand, or Colonel Henry, Hengue Pushees, or the Big Cat, Wicocalind, or Captain White Eyes, who took up the hatchet for the United States, and their families, shall be received into the Delaware nation, in the same situation and rank as before the war, and enjoy their due portions of the lands given to the Wyandot and Delaware nations in this treaty, as fully as if they had not taken part with America, or as any other person or persons in the said nations.

GEO. CLARK,
RICHARD BUTLER,
ARTHUR LEE.

[Signed by the sachems and warriors of the Wyandot, Delaware, Chippewa, and Ottawa nations of Indians.]

Articles of a Treaty concluded at the mouth of the Great Miami, on the northwestern bank of the Ohio, the thirty-first day of January, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-six, between the commissioners plenipotentiary of the United States of America, of the one part, and the chiefs and warriors of the Shawanee nation, of the other part.

ARTICLE 1. Three hostages shall be immediately delivered to the commissioners, to remain in the possession of the United States until all the prisoners, white and black, taken in the late war, from among the citizens of the United States, by the Shawanee nation, or by any other Indian or Indians residing in their towns, shall be restored.

ART. 2. The Shawanee nation do acknowledge the United States to be the sole and absolute sovereigns of all the territory ceded to them, by a treaty of peace, made between them and the King of Great Britain, the fourteenth day of January, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-four.

ART. 3. If any Indian or Indians of the Shawanee nation, or any other Indian or Indians residing in their towns, shall commit murder or robbery on, or do any injury to, the citizens of the United States, or any of them, that nation shall deliver such offender or offenders to the officer commanding the nearest post of the United States, to be punished according to the ordinances of Congress; and, in like manner, any citizen of the United States, who shall do an injury to any Indian of the Shawanee nation, or to any other Indian or Indians residing in their towns, and under their protection, shall be punished according to the laws of the United States.

ART. 4. The Shawanee nation, having knowledge of the intention of any nation or body of Indians to make war on the citizens of the United States, or of their counselling together for that purpose, and neglecting to give information thereof to the commanding officer of the nearest post of the United States, shall be considered as parties in such war, and be punished accordingly; and the United States shall, in like manner, inform the Shawanees of any injury designed against them.

ART. 5. The United States do grant peace to the Shawanee nation, and do receive them into their friendship and protection.

ART. 6. The United States do allot to the Shawanee nation, lands within their territory, to live and hunt upon, beginning at the south line of the lands allotted to the Wyandots and Delaware nations, at the place where the main branch of the Great Miami, which falls into the Ohio, intersects said line; then, down the river Miami, to the fork of that river, next below the old fort which was taken by the French in one thousand seven hundred and fifty-two; thence due west to the river De la Panse; then, down that river, to the river Wabash; beyond which lines none of the citizens of the United States shall settle, nor disturb the Shawanees in their settlement and possessions. And the Shawanees do relinquish to the United States, all title, or pretence of title, they ever had to the lands east, west, and south, of the east, west, and south lines before described.

Art. 7. If any citizen or citizens of the United States shall presume to settle upon the lands allotted to the Shawanees, by this treaty, he or they shall be put out of the protection of the United States.

In testimony whereof, the parties hereunto have affixed their hands and seals, the day and year first above mentioned.

G. CLARK,
RICHARD BUTLER,
SAM'L H. PARSONS.

[Signed by the chiefs and warriors of the Shawanee nation.]

1st Congress.] **No. 2.** **[1st Session.**

WABASH, CREEKS, CHEROKEES, CHICKASAWS, AND CHOCTAWS.

COMMUNICATED TO CONGRESS AUGUST 7, 1789.

Gentlemen of the Senate:

The business which has hitherto been under the consideration of Congress, has been of so much importance, that I was unwilling to draw their attention from it to any other subject. But the disputes which exist between some of the United States, and several powerful tribes of Indians within the limits of the Union; and the hostilities which have, in several instances, been committed on the frontiers, seem to require the immediate interposition of the General Government.

I have, therefore, directed the several statements and papers, which have been submitted to me on this subject by General Knox, to be laid before you for your information.

While the measures of Government ought to be calculated to protect its citizens from all injury and violence, a due regard should be extended to those Indian tribes whose happiness, in the course of events, so materially depends on the national justice and humanity of the United States.

If it should be the judgment of Congress that it would be most expedient to terminate all differences in the Southern district, and to lay the foundation for future confidence, by an amicable treaty with the Indian tribes in that quarter, I think proper to suggest the consideration of the expediency of instituting a temporary commission for that purpose, to consist of three persons, whose authority should expire with the occasion.

How far such a measure, unassisted by posts, would be competent to the establishment and preservation of peace and tranquillity on the frontiers, is, also, a matter which merits your serious consideration.

Along with this object, I am induced to suggest another, with the national importance and necessity of which, I am deeply impressed; I mean, some uniform and effective system for the militia of the United States. It is unnecessary to offer arguments in recommendation of a measure, on which the honor, safety, and well-being of our country so evidently and so essentially depend. But, it may not be amiss to observe, that I am particularly anxious it should receive as early attention as circumstances will admit, because, it is now in our power to avail ourselves of the military knowledge disseminated throughout the several States, by means of the many well instructed officers and soldiers of the late army; a resource which is daily diminishing by deaths, and other causes. To suffer this peculiar advantage to pass away, unimproved, would be, to neglect an opportunity which will never again occur, unless, unfortunately, we should again be involved in a long and arduous war.

GEO. WASHINGTON.

New York, *August* 7, 1789.

Report from Henry Knox, Secretary of War, to the President of the United States, relating to the several Indian tribes.

War Office, *June* 15, 1789.

Sir:

The time it will require to complete a full statement of the Department of War, induces me to submit to your view, in a series of numbers, such parts thereof as seem to claim an immediate attention.

As most of the nations of Indians within the limits of the United States are, at present, discontented, and some of them turbulent, I have conceived it proper to commence, by a statement of the Indian Department. In the performance of this business, I have not barely confined myself to facts, but I have taken the liberty of suggesting such measures as appear to my mind to be necessary for the happiness and reputation of the public.

By the ordinance of Congress of the 7th August, 1786, for the regulation of Indian affairs, which is herewith submitted, the department is divided into the Northern and Southern districts.

The report on the treaties of fort Harmar, submitted the 23d of May last, will shew the situation of those tribes with whom the United States have formed treaties, since the conclusion of the war with Great Britain.

I have now the honor to transmit a paper, No. 1, relative to the Wabash Indians. Were the subsisting disorders with those Indians quieted, and they attached to the interests of the United States, it is not probable that any further troubles with the more distant Indians would soon arise.

Number 2, which will be submitted shortly, will shew the situation of the Southern Indians, and contain some observations on the difficulties subsisting between them and the frontier people of the States of Georgia and North Carolina.

I have the honor to be, &c.

H. KNOX.

The President of the United States.

No. 1.

Report from H. Knox, Secretary of War, to the President of the United States,

RELATIVE TO THE NORTHWESTERN INDIANS.

War Office, *June 15th,* 1789.

By information from Brigadier General Harmar, the commanding officer of the troops on the frontiers, it appears that several murders have been lately committed on the inhabitants, by small parties of Indians, probably from the Wabash country.

Speech of Capt Aaron Hill Octr 23d 1784

Brothers from Pensylvania

1884/2

We have heard, what you have said, and are well pleased with the same. The Consideration we have fully agreed on which we are to receive for the Lands, and agreeable to your request have appointed Capt. Aaron Hill, Onequeandahonjo, and Koneghariko of the Mohawk Tribe, Kayenthoghke, Thaghneghtanhare, & Teyagonendageghti, of the Seneca, Ohendarighton, & Thoneiyode of the Cayuga, Sagoyahalongo & Otoghselonegh, Ojistalale, Oneyanha, Gathsaweda, & Adaghſeghte of the Oenida, & Unasaghweghte & Thalondawagon of the Tuscarora as suitable persons to receive the Goods from you.

With regard to the Creek called Tiadaghton mentioned in your Deed of 1768 We have already answered you, and again repeat it, it is the same you call Pine creek, being the largest emptying into, the West branch of the Susquehanna.

Agreeable to your wish we have appointed Thaghneghtanhare to attend your Surveyor in running the Line between you and us —

We do hereby certify that the aforegoing Speech was, this day made by Captain Aaron Hill, on behalf of the Six Nations to the Pensylvania Commiſsioners

Witneſs our hands this Twenty third day of October Anno Domini One thousand Seven hundred and Eighty four

Sam Kirkland Miſsry

James Dean, Interpretor

Answer of the Six Nations to the Commissioners Speech of the 23d. day of October 1784

Samuel Dean
Missionary to the Indians
Major in Revol. war.
See Drake.

23 Oc. 1784

We the Subscribers Commissioners duly appointed by the Honourable the Supreme Executive Council of the State of Pensylvania for the purpose of purchasing of the Indians the Territory within the acknowledged Limits of the same State which hath not been heretofore been purchased, do hereby Promise and Engage, as part of the Consideration of the said purchase which is now accomplished to deliver to the Six Nations or such person or persons as they shall apoint, and who shall as a Voucher bring with him or them, this our Obligation; Goods, Wares, or Merchandize of such assortments as the Indians shall now direct to the amount of One Thousand Dollars at the Pensylvania Line or near Tioga on the first Day of October next, Witness our Hands & Seals at Fort Stanwix this 23 Day of October A:D: 1784

Sealed and delivered in presence of

Signd Oliver Walcott
Arthur Lee
Richard Butler
Aaron Hill

Saml Kirkland Missy
James Deane Intr
Alex Campbell Cml. Com

Pr Signd
Saml J. Atlee
Wm Maclay
Francis Johnston

Copy Oct.r 1784

Agreement of the
American Commissioners for
the purchase of Lands from the
Six Nation Indians.

COMMISSIONERS FOR TREATING WITH THE INDIANS, 1784.

Sunbury, November 15th, 1784.

Sir,

We have the honor to inform you that after enduring very great fatigue we have happily effected our negociations with the six confederated Tribes of Indians. The consideration agreed on by us to be paid them for the Land purchased, with such other particulars as you would wish to have communicated, Col. Johnston will lay before you.

In regard to the Tiadaughton Creek on the West Branch of Susquehanna mentioned in the Deed of 1768. We beg leave to inform you that the six nations publicly declared Pine creek to be the same as will appear by the inclosed paper. We are now in Company with the Continental Commissioners and mean to proceed with all the dispatch, the approaching season will admit to Cayahauga, the place fixed on by them for holding a Treaty with the Western Indians, where we trust we shall be as successful as at the former.

We have the honor to be,
Your Excellency's most obed.
and very humble Servants,
SAM. J. ATLEE,
WM. MACLAY,
FRA. JOHNSTON.*

Directed,

(Public service.)
His Excellency, John Dickinson, Esqr., President in Council.

ANSWER OF THE SIX NATIONS TO COMMISSIONERS, 1784.

Brothers from Pennsylvania.

We have heard what you have said and are well pleased with the same. The Consideration we have fully agreed on which we are to receive for the Lands, and agreeable to your request have appointed Capt. Aaron Hill, Oneguecandahonjo and Koneghariko of the Mohawk Tribe, Kayenthoghke, Thaghneghtanhare & Teyagonendageghti of the Seneca, Ohendarighton, & Thoneiyode of the Cayuga, Sagoyakalongo & Otoghselonegh, Ojistalale, Oneyanha, Gaghsaweda, & Odaghseghte of the Oenida, & Onasaghweughte & Thalondawagon of the Tuscarora, as suitable persons to receive the Goods from you.

With regard to the Creek called Teadaghton mentioned in your

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* Col. Rec., Vol. XIV., p. 261.—See also Archives, Vol. IV., p. 309 (note.)

Deed of 1768, we have already answered you and again repeat it, it is the same you call Pine creek, being the largest emptying into the West branch of the Susquehanna.

Agreeable to your wish we have appointed Thaghneghlanhare to attend your Surveyor in running the Line between you and us.

We do hereby certify that the aforegoing speech was this day made by Captain Aaron Hill, on the behalf of the Six Nations to the Pennsylvania Commissioners.

Witness our hand this Twenty third day of October, Anno Domino One thousand seven hundred and Eighty four.

SAM. KIRKLAND, Missry.
JAMES DEAN, Interpreter,

PRES. DICKINSON TO PRES. OF CONGRESS, 1784.

In Council, November 22, 1784.

Sir,

Last May we informed Congress of the Offences committed by a Frenchman in this State. We have made every Exertion in our Power for asserting the Law of Nations on the occasion; the final proceedings of our Supreme Court concerning it, are inclosed.

We now rely upon the Wisdom of Congress, and hope that the Communication we have had the Honor of transmitting will be improved by them in such a Manner, that this troublesome affair may not be attended by any disagreeable Consequence.

I am, with the greatest Respect,
Sir, your most
obedient and most
humble Servant,
JOHN DICKINSON.*

Directed,

His Excellency, the President of Congress.

PRES. DICKINSON TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS, 1784.

In Council, November 22, 1784.

Gentlemen,

We inclose a Letter for the President of Congress which we have left open for your perusal.

As you must be sensible of the Difficulties that have occurred in a Case of such Novelty, we think it unnecessary to say any thing on

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* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIV., p. 262.

OBLIGATION OF COMMISSIONERS TO PURCHASE FROM INDIANS, 1784.

We, the subscribers, Commissioners duly appointed by the Honorable the Supreme Executive Council of the State of Pennsylvania, for the purpose of purchasing of the Indians the Territory within the acknowledged limits of the same State, which had not heretofore been purchased—do hereby promise and engage as part of the consideration of the same purpose, which is now accomplished, to deliver to the six nations, or such person or persons as they may appoint, and who shall, as a voucher, bring with him or them this our Obligation, Goods, Wares or Merchandize of such assortments as the Indians shall now direct, to the amount of One thousand Dollars, at the Pennsylvania Line, near Tioga, On the first day of October next; witness our hands at Fort Stanwix, this twenty-third day of October, Anno Domini 1784.

SAM'L J. ATLEE,
WM. MACLAY,
FRAS. JOHNSTON.*

Witness present.

Copy taken from and compared with the original.

G. EVANS, Sec'y.

GEN. JAMES WILKINSON TO PRES. DICKINSON, 1784.

Sir

I shall offer no apology for this address; it must doubtless be unexpected, but the occasion will, I flatter myself, excuse it. Being about to take a long leave of the State of Pensylvania, I conceive it my duty to abdicate the Offices of Brigadier & Adjutant General, which I hold in Her militia; I am sorry I cannot observe the ceremony of inclosing the Commissions, as they are not at present within my reach:—And the motive of my Application is the Interest I take in the welfare of that meritorious, respectable part of Society, the late Military of America; I am prompted by principle & sympathy to promote their prosperity on every proper occasion, by every consistent means in my Power.†

On the present return of the Election for Fayette County, Major John Harden stands second for the Sheriff's Office; permit me briefly to state to your Excellency this man's merit, without detracting from that of his Competitor.—Mr. Harden served in the alert of the Army under the Generals (then Colonels) Morgan & Butler, in the Northern Campaign, 1777. His Rank was that of a Lieutenant, and I can, as the Adjutant General of the Army under General Gates, assert that he was exposed to more danger, encountered greater Fatigue, and performed more real service than any other Officer of his Station; with Parties never exceeding 20 Men, he in the Course of the Campaign made upwards of 60 Prisoners, and at a Personal Recounter in the rear of the Enemie's position, he killed a Mohawk express, & brought in the dispatches which he was conveying from Gen'l Burgoyne to the Commanding Officer at Ticonderoga, with the loss only (indeed) of a Lock of Hair which the Indian's Fire carried away. It is sufficient for me, Sir, to testify his merits, the Justice which characterizes your administration will do the rest.

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* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIV., p. 186–7.

† Read in Council Nov. 8, and resignation accepted—Col. Rec., Vol. XIV., page 252.

I have the honor to be, with the highest respect, Your Excellency's most Obedient &

most Humble Servant,

Directed, JAMES WILKINSON.

His Excellency John Dickinson, Esqr., Philadel'a.

BENJAMIN JOHNSTON TO PRES. DICKINSON, 1784.

Washington County, Nov. 1st, 1784.

Hon'ble Sir,

From the strongest assurance of your Honor's Zeal to do Justice to every Individual, prompted by a motive of Justice to myself and to all those People claiming Lands under Grants from the state of Virginia within the Bounds of the Cession to this State, and wishing the Agreement to be fulfilled in every Instance, I am induced to address your honor, praying that agreeable to the Articles where it is expressed, *Private right and Property shall be saved and confirmed to those People living on the ceded Lands*, under these words, sir, I claim as my *private right* the surveying those Lands, which by a Commission from the state of Virginia, I say is my *private right.*

In no other manner can the Agreement be fulfilled, which Agreement, if violated, must end in running the meanders of the River Delaware from the End of 5° Longitude, from the Delaware, in Latitude 40.°

As my pretensions are founded on the strictest Justice, I am filled with the strongest assurance attention will be paid thereto.

A Copy of Entries from my Office has been transmitted to your Board thro' the Hands of the Executive of Virginia.*

I am, with respect and great Esteem, Your

Honor's mo. obliged, mo. Obdt. & very H'ble Ser't,

Directed, B. JOHNSTON, S. Y. C.

His Excellency John Dickerson, Esqr., President State of Pennsylvania.

RESOLUTIONS OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY—NEW JERSEY, 1784.

State of Pennsylvania, In General Assembly,

Friday, December 10, 1784, A. M.

The motion read December 8, respecting the appointment of Commissioners on the part of this State, to meet with such Commission-

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* See pp. 603, 608.

the
And three quarters West one hundred and [illegible] perches
to a corner post, thence North thirty three degrees [illegible] an half [illegible]
and eight perches to a corner post of said Wolfarts other land [illegible]
same South forty two degrees East one hundred and forty eight perches [illegible]
two tenths to the first mentioned post and place of Beginning Contain-
ing Eighty three Acres and three quarters and allowance of Six p Ct
for Roads &c with the appurtenances. [Which said Tract of Land was Sur-
veyed by virtue of an Order on Application No 3692. entered the 14 day
of [illegible] by Frederick Fraser Who by Deed dated the 7 day of June
1768 conveyed the same to James McBride, Who by Deed dated the
5th day of December 1768 Conveyed the same to George Wolfart
Who by Deed dated the 8th day of May 1776. Conveyed the same to
the said Peter Wolfart [illegible] a Warrant for the Acceptance of the Survey
dated [illegible] the thirteenth day of November Instant] To have
and to hold the said [illegible] Tract of Land with the appurtenances unto
[illegible] Peter Wolfart and his Heirs to the use of the said Peter Wolfart
[illegible] forever free and clear of all restrictions and reser-
vations as to Mines Royalties, Quitrents or otherwise, excepting and
[illegible] the fifth part of all Gold and Silver Ore for the use of
[illegible] Commonwealth to be delivered at the Pitsmouth clear of all Charges.
[illegible] John Dickinson Esquire President
[illegible] hath hereto set his hand and caused
[illegible] to be hereunto affixed in Council the Eighteenth day of
[illegible] One Thousand seven Hundred
[illegible] of the Commonwealth the Ninth.

[illegible] John Dickinson. (S)

[illegible] Enrolled 20th Nov. 1784.

[illegible] these presents shall come We Anignuen,
[illegible] Chiefs of the Indian Nation
[illegible] Oyzonoughtha & Talahon.
[illegible] of the Indian Nation called the Oneidas
[illegible] Sachems
[illegible] the Onondagoes, Oraghgwanentagon
[illegible] Chiefs of the Indian Nation called
[illegible] Thannadaghrenage & Keghnaghtankeri;
[illegible] Nation called the Senecas
[illegible] Sachems
[illegible] the Tuscaroras being met together
[illegible] at Fort Stanwix by the
[illegible] Arthur Lee Esquires,
[illegible] appointed by the Honorable the
[illegible] Northern and Middle Districts.
[illegible] We the said Sachems or Chiefs
[illegible] Thousand Dollars
to us
[illegible] ensealing and Delivery of these presents by the

Honorable Samuel John Atlee Esquire and William McClay & Fra[illegible] Johnston Esquire Commissioners for and in behalf of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania the Receipt whereof We do hereby acknowledge have Granted Bargained Sold Released and Confirmed and by these presents for us and the said Six Nations and their Confederates and dependant Tribes all whom We represent and by whom We are thereunto authorized and empowered do Grant bargain Sell Release and Confirm unto the said Commonwealth all that part of the said Commonwealth not yet purchased of the Indians within the acknowledged Limits of the same **Beginning** on the South side of the River Ohio where the Western boundary of the State of Pennsylvania cros[illegible] the said River near Shingo's Old Town at the Mouth of Beaver Creek and thence by a due North Line to the end of the Forty second and beginning of the Forty third degrees of North Latitude thence by a due East line separating the forty second and forty third degrees of North Latitude to the East side of the East Branch of the River Susquehanna thence by the Bounds of the late purchase made at Fort St

wix the fifth day of November Anno Domini one [illegible] seven hundred
and sixty eight as follows down the [illegible] East Br[illegible] of Susquehanna on
the East side thereof till it comes [illegible] side to [illegible] of a Creek called
the Indians Awandae and acr[illegible] River [illegible] the said Creek on the
Side thereof and along the range [illegible] called Burnets Hills by the
and by the [illegible] [illegible] North Side of them to the Head of
Creek which runs into the [illegible] of Susquehanna which Creek is
the Indians called Tya[illegible] [illegible] the Pennsylvanians Pine Creek
[illegible] and down the said Creek on the [illegible] side thereof to the said West
of Susquehanna then crossing the [illegible] River and running up the same
South [illegible]

[illegible] the said
Also by [illegible]
State of Penn[illegible]
Together with all [illegible]
Lands [illegible]
[illegible] Islands, Son[illegible]
[illegible] Rivers, Savanna[illegible]
[illegible] Profits, Liberties
[illegible] Incomes whatsoever to [illegible]
[illegible] appertaining, and
[illegible] of us the said Sac[illegible]
[illegible] Confederates and Dependan[illegible]
To Hold the said Tract of Land [illegible]
[illegible] belonging unto the said Commonw[illegible]
[illegible] the said Commonwealth. Forever
[illegible] heirs nor any of us nor the said
[illegible] Tribes, nor any of them
nor any [illegible] successors shall Claim
Demand or Challenge any Right Title Interest or property of in or to the
said Tract of Land and Country but from the same shall be forever bar[illegible]
and excluded And the same Tract of Land and Country shall forever here-
after be peaceably and Quietly possessed by the said Commonwealth [illegible]
persons who shall Settle thereon under the Authority of the same

---

State of Pennsylvania ss.

Seal

Be it remembered that on the Seventeenth day [illegible] in the Year of Our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty five, and in the [illegible] year of the Independence of the United States of America came the Honorable Arthur Lee Esquire L.L.D. one of the Commissioners of the United States of America for holding treaties with the Indian Nations and Griffith Evans Esquire Secretary to the Commissioners of the said State of Pennsylvania for treating & Purchasing &c of the said Indians before the Honorable Thomas McKean Esquire, Doctor of Laws, Chief Justice of the Supreme court of the Let, hindrance, Molestation, Interruption or Denial of us the said Sachems or Chiefs or the said Six Nations or their Confederates and dependent Tribes or any of them or of our or their Heirs, Children or Descendants. In Witness whereof We the said Sachems or Chiefs for ourselves and the rest of the Six Nations, and their Confederates and Dependent Tribes have hereunto set our Hands and Seals Dated at Fort Stanwix aforesaid this Twenty third day of October ~ ~ in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven Hundred and Eighty four.—

Sealed and Delivered
In the Presence of us

Oliver Wolcott }
Arthur Lee } United States Commissioners
Richard Butler }

Aron hill
Saml. Kirkland Missy.
James Dean Intr.
Alexander Campbell Secy Contl. Comrs.
Saml. Montgomery Agt. & S. Keeper Contl. Comrs.
G. Evans
Secy. Penns. Ind. Comrs.

Oraghqwanantagon + Seal
Sayagoncalageghte + Seal
Sohenrowaaghtiryage X Seal
Shaghnaghlantauc Seal
Unonghsanangkte Seal
Theyondarogon Seal
Anuwendakonji Seal
Sowegharatagon Seal
Kanenghgonya X Seal
Atyatonenghtha + Seal
Salatonghteagon + Seal
Ohendanghkon + Seal
Kealaronkyon Seal

[illegible] that they were present and did see the [illegible] Sachems or Chiefs in the above Deed named as Grantors make the [illegible] marks to their Respective Names adjoining & Seal and Deliver the above Conveyance as and for their act and Deed. that they seen [illegible] subscribed their names as Witnesses thereof, and that seen the other [illegible] Witnesses subscribe their Names as witnesses to the same and that the [illegible] Gentlemen [illegible] above subscribed [illegible] of their respective [illegible] writing. In Testimony [illegible] have hereunto set my hand [illegible] Year above said.

Thos. McKean.

Received Fort Stanwix October 23. 1784. of the Common
of Pennsylvania, by the hands of the Honorable Samuel John Atle
and William Maclay and Francis Johnston Esquires Commissione
the Sum of Five Thousand Dollars by Authority and for the use of t
Six Nations being in full satisfaction of the Consideration Money
mentioned in the within Deed.

5000 Dollars

Witness Present
Samuel Kirkland Missy
James Deane Intp.

Ojistarare his + mark the Ch
of the Oneidas who ha
signed in behalf of th
Six Nations being Dul
appointed for the same

S. R.

Inrolled 23 Nov. 1784.

Patent
Jno
Mc
Donell

The Supreme Executive Council of the Commonw.th of Pennsylva
To all to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting;

Know Ye, that in Consideration of the sum of Forty five pound seven Shillings and six pence lawful money paid by John McDonell unto the Receiver General's Office of this Commonwealth, there is Granted by the said Commonwealth unto the said John McDonell a certain Tract of Land called Johnsburg situate in Middleton Township in the County of Cumberland Beginning at a corner [illegible] tree standing on the branch of Mountain Run, thence by vacant land South eighty three degrees West eighteen perches and an half to a post, South sixty five degrees and an half West seventy eight perches and an half to a corner Hickory, thence [illegible] degree East nineteen perches to a post, North sixty four degrees West sixty seven perches to a corner White Oak, thence South eighty four degrees East One hundred and fifty [illegible] perches to a fallen white oak tree and North thirty six degrees East two hundred and fifty [illegible] perches [illegible] Yellow Breech Creek to a corner [illegible] tree, thence [illegible] and vacant land South six degrees West [illegible] perches and an half to a corner Pine tree of William [illegible], thence by the same South seventy three degrees West one hundred and sixty two perches to a corner Pine tree, [illegible] fifty four perches to a [illegible] North eight degrees East fifty seven perches to a Red Oak and [illegible] three degrees West eight perches to a Hickory standing on the [illegible] Mountain [illegible] thence [illegible] the same by the [illegible] place of beg [illegible] allowance of Six [illegible] Tract of Lan [illegible] Application No 4646 entered the [illegible] day of [illegible] dated the [illegible] John McDonell and [illegible] of the Survey [illegible] to him the 5 day of [illegible] 1784 To have and to hold the said Tract or pa[illegible] of Land with the appurtenances unto the said John McDon

Deed
The Six
Indian
Nations
to
The Com.
Commwth
of Penns
ylvania.

To all People to whom these presents shall come We Anigwen
-dahonji & Teweghtogon Sachems or Chiefs of the Indian Nation
called the Mohocks, Kanonghgwenya, Alyatonenghtha & Tatahon
-ghteayon Sachems or Chiefs of the Indian Nations called the Oneidas
Ohendorighton, and Keatarondyon, — — — — — — — — — Sachems
or Chiefs of the Indian Nation called the Onondagoes, Oraghgwanentagon
— " — — " — — " — — — " — Sachem or Chief of the Indian Nation called
the Cayogaes, Tayagoneatageghte, Tehonwa[ ]aghreyagi T,haghnaghtanhari
— — — —Sachems or Chiefs of the Indian Nation called the Senecas
And Ononghsawanghte and T,harondawagon — " — " — " — " — — Sachems
or Chiefs of the Indian Nation called the Tuscaroras being met together
in a general Council of the six nations convened at Fort Stanwix by the
Honorable Oliver Wolcott, Richard Butler & Arthur Lee Esquires,
Commissioners of Indian Affairs Duely [sic] appointed by the Honorable the
Congress of the United States for the northern and Middle Districts,
Send Greeting Know ye, That we the said Sachems or Chiefs —
for and in Consideration of the sum of Five Thousand Dollars —
— " — " — " — " — " — " — " — " — " — " — " — " — " — to Us
in hand paid before unsealing and Delivery of these presents by the
Honorable Samuel John Al[ ]Lee Esquire and William McClay & Fran[cis]
Johnston Esquires Commissioners for and in behalf of the Commonwealth of
Pennsylvania the Receipt whereof we do hereby acknowledge have
Granted Bargained Sold Released and Confirmed and by these
presents for us and the said six nations and their Confederates and dep^{e}n [sic]
-dant Tribes all whom we represent and by whom we are thereunto
authorized and impowered do Grant bargain Sell Release and Confirm
unto the said Commonwealth all that part of the said Commonwealth not
yet purchased of the Indians within the acknowledged Limits of the same
Beginning on the South side of the River Ohio where the Western boundary
of the State of Pennsylvania crosses the said River near Shingo's old Town
at the Mouth of Beaver Creek and thence by a due north Line to the end
of the Forty second and beginning of the Forty third degrees of North
Latitude thence by a due East Line separating the forty second and forty third
degrees of North Latitude to the East side of the East Branch of the River
Susquehanna thence by the Bounds of the late purchase made at Fort Stan
-wix the fifth day of November Anno Domine one thousand seven hundred
and sixty eight as follows "down the [said] East Branch of Susquehanna on
the East side thereof till it [ ]site to [ ]th of a Creek called [by]
the Indians Awandae and [across] River [ ]the said Creek on the so[uth]
side thereof and along the range [ ]called Burnets Hills by the Engli[sh]
and by the Indians [blank][manuscript is torn]the North side of them to the Head of [ ]
Creek which runs into the [ ]of Susquehanna which Creek i[ ]
the Indians called Tyag[ ]the Pennsylvanians Pine Creek,
— " — " and down the said Creek on the South side thereof to the said [West Branch]
of Susquehanna then crossing the said River and running up the same [ ]
South[ ]
which[manuscript is torn]
[ ]
Ohio by [ ]the said
State of Penns[ ]
Together with all[ ]s, Waters, Sou
Land Fields[ ]alleys, Savana
Fens, Swamps,[ ]Rights, Liberties
priviledg[ ]tenances whatsoever to[ ]

State of Pennsylvania ss:
Be it remembered that on the Seventeenth day[ ] in the Year of Our Lord one thousand
and Eighty five, and in the Nin[ ] year of the Independence of the United States of America,
came the Honorable Arthur Lee Esquire. L.L,D. one of the Commissioners of the United States
of America for holding treateis with the Indian Nations and Griffith Evans Esquire Secretary
for the Commissioners of the said State of Pennsylvania for treating & Purchasing &c of the said
Indians before the Honorable Thomas M^{c}Kean Esquire, Doctor of Laws, Chief Justice of the Supreme court of P[ ]

said Tract of[ ]in any wise appertaining, and[ ]
the Right Title [ ]whatsoever of us the said Sac[hems]
or Chiefs and of[ ]and their Confederates and Dependan[t]
Tribes and every[ ]to hold the said Tract of Land a
Country with the[ ]belonging unto the said Common[wea]
-lth to the only prop[ ]the said Commonwealth. Foreve[r]
so that neither w[ ]Chiefs nor any of us nor the said S[ix]
Na[tio]ns nor their[confederate & de]pendant Tribes, nor any of them,
→nor any of our or their Heirs[ ]or Descendants shall Claim
Demand or Challenge any Right Title Interest or property of[in or]to the
said Tract of Land and Country but from the same shall be forever ba[rred]
and excluded and the same Tract of Land and Country shall forever [ ]
[ter]be peaceably and Quietly possessed by the said Commonwealth, And all
persons who shall Settle thereon under the Authority of the same[ ]
The Lot, hindrance, Molestation, Interruption or Deni of us the
said Sachems or Chiefs or the said Six Nations or their Confederates and
dependent Tribes or any of them or of our or their Heirs, Children or
Descendants. In Witness whereof We the said Sachems or Chiefs
for ourselves and the rest of the Six Nations and their Confederates and
Dependent Tribes have hereunto set our Hands and Seals Dated at
Fort Stanwix aforesaid this Twenty third day of October ~~xx~~ in
the Year of our Lord One thousand seven Hundred and Eighty four. —

Sealed and Delivered

In the Presence of us.
Oliver Wolcott
Arthur Lee
Richard Butler
} United States Commissioners

Aron hill
Saml. Kirkland Missy
James Dean Intr
Alexander Campbell Secy Con. Com.
Jams Montgomery Agt. & S.[Kap] Contl. Comst.
G. Evans
Secy Pennsa. Indn Comrs

Oraghgwanantagon
Tayagoneatageghti
Tehonwaaaghreyagi
Thaghnaghlanhani
Anonghsawanghti
Tha[ ]ondawagon
Anigwendahonji
Teweghnitogon
Kanonghgwen'ya
Alyatonenghtha
Talahonghteayon
Ohendarighton
Keatarondyon

[ ]of Pennsy[ ]they were present and did see the thirteen[ ]
Sachems or Chiefs in the above Deed named as Grantors. make the[or]marks to their Respective Names adjoining & Seal
and deliv[er] the above Conveyance. as and for the[ir] act and Deed, that they seven[ ]subscribed their names as Witnesses
thereof, and also seen the other Seve[n witnesses]subscribe their Names as witnesses to the same, and that
Arthur Lee and G. Evans above subscribed are of their respective[ ] In Testimony whereof I Have hereunto put my Hand &
[Seal]the day & Year above said. — Thos McKean. —

Received Fort Stanwix October 23, 1784 of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, by the hands of the Honorable Samuel John Atlee Esq and William Maclay and Francis Johnston Esquires Commissioners &ca the Sum of Five thousand Dollars by Authority and for the use of the Six Nations being in full satisfaction of the Consideration Money mentioned in the within Deed

5000 Dollars

Witness Present

Samuel Kirkland Miss^{y}.
James Dean Intp^{r}

his
Ojistarare + the Chief
mark
of the Oneidas who has
signed in behalf of the
Six Nations being Duly
appointed for the same
S. K.

Inrolled 23^{d} Nov^{r}. 1784

2/7/79 MD

Sir.

His Excellency the General desired me to put down in paper the purport of my business to him,— The business I came upon is a few different matters Which concerns the tribes I belong. If you gave me an answer the last letter I wrote you, I should have been no occation to Come here Also if we had an answer the message we send by Col^o Butler to His Excellency it would have been good guide to us, but not having an answer neither of them put us good deal in confusion did not know how to understand the matters & therefore oblige to come here I hope His Excellency will now please to answer me and let it be what it will whether pleasing me or no, only let me understand right of these matters, In the first place I wish to be Explained by His Excellency

Major Mathews —

before he depart from this place let me understand perfectly right of those promises which he was pleased to make to us last Spring & we understood him that he meant to give us a proper writings to secure the lands which he had purchased for us, I would be very happy to know of where we to get of these writings or when, The second thing is concerning our new settlement Also wish very much to know whether His Excellency can Assist us further or no, of that settlement, I mean such as we Expected mills was to be built, and some iron works to be given to us, for ploughs &c. we never meant to get those things for nothing all together. you know our losses Amounts to 1600 pounds N.york currency we have got fifteen hundred pounds if these mills was to be built and other necessaries; should be paid out the 1600 pounds; we dont say we Expect to get all our losses, and get mills built besides no.

likewise wish to know concerning Religion affairs, such as School master for our children & Church was to be fixt of that settlement how is that to be, The purport of that letter the above mention'd, and the message sent by Col. Butler was, we wanted to know by His Excellency about the [illegible]lists going to England to see, about their losses by the late war, we thought the General must know more than any body about that matter, and as we have no other persons to go to, We therefore asked him whether he thought our losses could be settled in England without being present one of us or no, we told him if we find its necessary for one of us to go to England, we should beared the Expences ourselves. Sir all these things concerns me Exceedingly for if the General does not consider these matters it will be bad consequence to me.

I am your very Humble serv.t & friend
Jos Brant

To
Major Mathews

Octbr, 24th 1784

N,B my house at Cataraqui is it my own or only during my stay there

from
Capt.ⁿ Brant
24th Oct.ʳ

106

Grant

Governor Haldimand

to

The Six Nations

Dated 25th Oct. 1784.

Provl. Registrar's Office
Quebec 23rd June 1862.

I hereby Certify the within to be a true and faithful Copy of the Record of the Original Grant as entered in Lib. A folio 8 (manuscript)

Wm Kent
Dep: Prov: Regr.

Frederick Haldimand Captain
General and Governor in Chief of the Provinc
of Quebec and Territories depending thereon
&c. &c. &c. General and Commander in Chie
of His Majesty's Forces in said Province and the
Frontiers thereof — &c. — &c. — &c. —

— Grant —
Govr. Haldimand
— to —
The Six Nations

Registered 20th
March '95. –
Wm. Jarvis

— Whereas His Majesty having been pleased to direct that in consideration of the early attachment to his cause manifested by the Mohawk Indians and of the loss of their settlement which they thereby sustained – that a convenient tract of land under his protection should be chosen as a safe and comfortable retreat for them and others of the Six Nations, who have either lost their settlements within the Territory of the American States, or wish to retire from them to the British – I have at the earnest desire of many of these His Majesty's faithful Allies purchased a tract of land from the Indians situated between the Lakes Ontario, Erie and Huron, and I do hereby in His Majesty's name authorize and permit the said Mohawk Nation and such others of the Six Natio Indians as wish to settle in that quarter to take possession of and settle upon the Banks of the River commonly called ~~Ours~~ Ouse or Grand River, running into Lake Erie, allotting to them for that purpose six miles deep from each side of the river beginning at Lake Erie and extending in that proportion to the head of the said river, which them and their posterity are to enjoy for ever. —

Given under my hand and seal at arms at the Castle of St. Lewis at Quebec this twenty-fifth day of October one thousand seven hundred and eighty-four and in the twenty-fifth year of the reign of our Sovereig Lord George the Third by the Grace of God of Great Britain, France, and Ireland King Defender of the Faith and so forth. –

Fredk. Haldimand

— By His Excellency's Command —
R. Mathews

Photostat copy of the original manuscript in possession
of Chief Deskaheh, Six Nations, Grand River, Canada.
September 23, 1921.

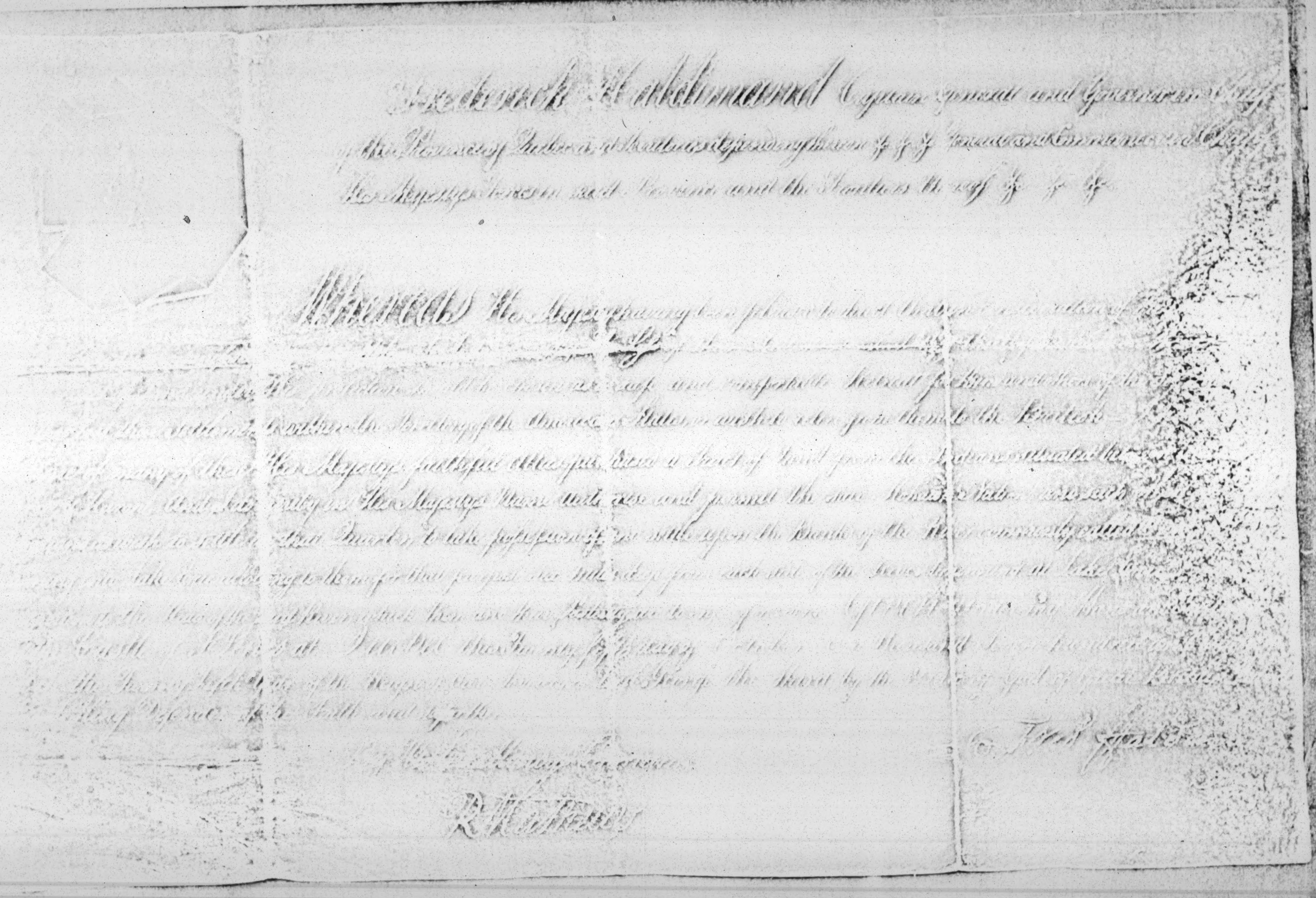
[See: Petition & Case of the Six Nations of the Grand River,
Presented to Colonial Office, 25th August, 1921.]

HBC pv 41
No. 6.

"The original on parchment of this Haldimand treaty has since its date been in possession of the Six Nations of the Grand River and was photographed on Sept.23, 1921 by permission of Chief Des-ka-heh on his return through New York from London having carried the treaty with him. The original was delivered on its execution to Capt. Joseph Brant who caused the tin box to be made for its reception and in which it has ever since been kept.

"(Signed) Chief Deskaheh"

"Dated N Y City
Sept 23 - 1921"



Frederick Haldimand Captain General and Governor in Chief of the Province of Quebec and Territories depending thereon &c &c &c General and Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces in said Province and the Frontiers thereof &c &c &c

Whereas His Majesty having been pleased to direct that in consideration of [illegible] chosen as a safe and comfortable retreat for them and others of the Six Nations who have either lost their settlements within the territory of the American States or wish to retire from them to the British — I have at the earnest desire of many of these His Majesty's faithful Allies purchased a tract of land from the Indians situated between the Lakes Ontario, Erie and Huron, and I do hereby in His Majesty's name authorize and permit the said Mohawk Nation and such others of the Six Nation Indians as wish to settle in that quarter to take possession of and settle upon the banks of the River commonly called Ouse or Grand River running into Lake Erie allotting to them for that purpose six miles deep from each side of the river beginning at Lake Erie and extending in that proportion to the head of the said river which them and their posterity are to enjoy for ever. Given under my hand and seal at arms at the Castle of St Lewis at Quebec this twenty fifth day of October one thousand seven hundred and eighty four and in the twenty fifth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third by the Grace of God of Great Britain France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith and so forth.

Fred: Haldimand

By His Excellency's Command

R. Mathews

Frederick Haldimand Captain General and Governor in Chief of the Province of Quebec and Territories depending thereon &c. &c. &c. General and Commander in Chief of His Majestys Forces in said Province and the Frontiers thereof &c. &c. &c.

Whereas His Majesty having been pleased to direct that in consideration of the [illegible] to his cause manifested by the Mohawk Indians, and of the Loss of their Settlement, which they thereby sustained, that a [illegible] Tract of Land under His protection should be chosen as a safe and comfortable Retreat for them and others of the Six [illegible] either lost their Settlements within the Territory of the American States, or wish to retire from them to the British — I have at the [illegible] desire of many of these His Majesty's faithful Allies purchased a Tract of Land from the Indians situated between the [illegible] Erie, & Huron, And I do hereby in His Majesty's Name Authorise and permit the said Mohawk Nation and such others of [illegible] Indians as wish to settle in that Quarter, to take possession of and settle upon the Banks of the River commonly called Ours [illegible] running into Lake Erie allotting to them for that purpose Six Miles deep from each side of the River beginning at Lake Erie [illegible] that proportion to the Head of the said River which them and their Posterity are to enjoy for ever. Given under my Hand and Seal [illegible] at the Castle of St. Lewis at Quebec this Twenty fifth day of October One thousand Seven hundred and Eighty [illegible] and in the Twenty fifth Year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lord George the Third by the Grace of God of Great Britain France [illegible] Ireland King Defender of the Faith and so forth.

Fred: Haldimand

By His Excellency's Command

R. Mathews

From negatives in possession of

George W. B. Hawley, Geneva, N.Y.
20 December, 1934.

Negatives made 1921 from original MS. in archives of Secretary of State, Albany, N.Y.

Mr Hawley stated that he requested to see the original MS in 1934, but it could not be found at that time.

Norman R. Leach
Dec 20 1934

Photostat copy in Library of Congress

STATES

INDIANS - Six Nations

Canada - Gouvernor, Frederick Haldimand

Treaty permitting the Mohwaks and such other of the Six Nations Indians, to settle upon the banks of the Grand River "which them and their posterity are to enjoy forever".

D.S. ~~Fere//~~Frederick Haldimand. R. Matthews.
~~Photstat//~~ Photostat neg. & pos.

Certification signed by Chief Deskaheh as to the authenticity of the original manuscript, Sept. 23, 1921.

Dr. J.F.Kenney

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE PUBLIC ARCHIVES
OTTAWA

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF CANADA

JFK/AC

Ottawa, November 3, 1928.

Dear Mr. Paltsits:-

Thanks very much for your letter of October 31 and the information regarding the original of the grant by Haldimand to the Six Nations Indians.

Very sincerely yours,

James F. Kenney

Director of Historical
Research and Publicity.

Victor H. Paltsits,
Chief of the American History Division
and Keeper of Manuscripts,
New York Public Library,
New York, N.Y.

October 31, 1928.

Mr. James F. Kenney
Director of Historical Research and Publicity
Public Archives of Canada
Ottawa, Canada.

Dear Mr. Kenney:

Yes we have a photostat of the Haldimand Treaty of October 25, 1784, in our Manuscript Division. It was received by us in 1921 through George P. Decker, of Rochester, N.Y., Counsel for the Six Nations, with an attest, signed by Chief Deskaheh, dated New York City, Sept. 23, 1921. The original is in possession of Chief Deskaheh, chief of the Six Nations at Grand River, Canada. He says it has been in the possession of the Six Nations from its origin when it was delivered to Capt. Joseph Brant "who caused the tin box to be made for its reception and in which it has ever since been kept." It was when, in 1921, the Chief passed through New York from London that our photostat was made here.

Yours sincerely,

Victor H. Paltsits
Chief of the
American History Division
and Keeper of Manuscripts.

VHP:LR.

Dr. J.F.Kenney

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE PUBLIC ARCHIVES
OTTAWA

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF CANADA

JFK/AC

Ottawa, October 29, 1928.

Dear Mr. Paltsits:-

The Yale University Press, in connection with requests for certain information from this Department, have mentioned incidentally that they found in the New York Public Library a photostat copy of what they call the original treaty permitting the Mohawk Indians of New York State to settle in Canada. For some time I have been trying to find the original document, dated Castle of St-Louis, Quebec, October 25, 1784, and signed by Frederick Haldimand, by which land on the Grand River in Canada was granted to the Mohawks and others of the Six Nations Indians. Would it be possible for you to let me know whether the photostat referred to is from this original document, and, if so, where the original now is?

With thanks,

Faithfully yours,

James F. Kenney

Director of Historical
Research and Publicity.

Victor H. Paltsits, Esq.,
Chief of American History Division and
Keeper of Manuscripts,
New York Public Library,
New York City,
N.Y.,U.S.A.

The Haldimand Deed.

This deed to the land along Grand River in Canada given to the Six Nations and their leader & spokesman Joseph Brant is illegible in some places. The complete text of the deed which follows may be used to supply wording. It is taken from a copy of the deed made by the librarian of the Wisconsin State Historical Society made when the deed was more legible and the transcript may be found in the Draper Mss. 13 F 18 in the library of the Wisconsin State Historical Society. At the time it was copied by Draper the deed was in the possession of Brant's great granddaughter, Mrs. Dee.

Seal

Frederick Haldimand Captain General and Governor in Chief of the Province of Quebec and Territories depending thereon etc., etc., etc. General and Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Forces in said Province and the Frontiers thereof etc., etc., etc.

Whereas His Majesty's having been pleased to direct that in consideration of the early attachment to his cause manifested by the Mohawk Indians and the loss of their settlement that they thereby sustained that a convenient tract of land under his protection should be chosen as a safe and comfortable Retreat

(over)

This transcript was made by Mark Jack Smith, of Bacon College, Bacon, Oklahoma June 1942

for them and others of the Six Nations who have either lost their Settlements within the Territory of the American States, or wish to retire from them to the British — I have at the earnest desire of many of these His Majesty's faithful allies purchased a Tract of Land from the Indians situated between the Lakes Ontario, Erie, and Huron, and do hereby in his Majesty's name authorize and permit the said Mohawks Nation and such others of the Six Nations Indians as wish to settle in that Quarter to take possession of and Settle upon the Banks of the River commonly called Ouse or Grand River running into Lake Erie allotting to them for that purpose six miles deep from each side of the River beginning at Lake Erie and extending in that proportion to the Head of the said River, Which Them and Their Posterity are to enjoy forever. Given under my Hand and Seal of Arms at the Castle of St. Lewis at Quebec this Twenty fifth day of October one thousand Seven hundred and eighty four, and in the Twenty Fifth year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third by the Grace of God of Great Britain, France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith & soforth.

By His Excellency's Command

Fred. Haldimand

R. Mathews

The original on parchment of the Haldimand treaty has since its date been in possession of the Six Nations of the Grand River and was photographed on Sept 23 - 1921 by permission of Chief Des-ka-heh on his return through New York from London having carried the treaty with him - The original was delivered on its execution to Capt Joseph Brant who cause the tin box to be made for its reception ~~and~~ and in which it has ever since been kept.

Dated NY City
Sept 23 - 1921

Chief Deskaheh

This was written by George P. Decker, of Rochester, N.Y., Counsel for the Six Nations, and signed by Chief Deskaheh at the New York Public Library September 23, 1921

Wilmer R. Leech

N. Y. Times

G. P. DECKER DIES; INDIAN CHAMPION

Lawyer, an Expert on Treaties, Represented Various Tribes in Pushing Their Clams.

DIX'S ATTORNEY GENERAL

Codified New York Game Laws and Was Collector of the Port of Rochester.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Feb. 24.—George P. Decker, an attorney, recognized authority on Indian treaties and champion of the red men in controversies with the Federal and State Governments, died here today of pneumonia. He was 74 years old.

Because of his knowledge of Indian treaties and his familiarity with the point of view of the Indians, he was selected fifteen years ago to represent the Six Nations of Green River Reservation, Canada, before the League of Nations at Geneva in a controversy with the Canadian Government over funds held by the government for land acquired by white men from the reservation.

Shortly afterward he was selected by the Wilson administration for a place on the British-American Arbitration Claims Commission. He also represented the Iroquois in State and Federal courts in their fights for rights they considered theirs under treaties and was visited here by many Indian chiefs.

Mr. Decker, a protégé of David B. Hill, was a Democrat, and during Cleveland's second administration he was Collector of the Port of Rochester. He was the first Attorney General in the administration of Governor John A. Dix and as counsel for the old Forest, Fish and Game Commission he made the first systematic revision and codification of the game laws of New York State.

He was born in Clarkson, N. Y., and was a graduate of the University of Rochester. He came of pioneer families; on of his ancestors was Colonel Jonathan Hasbrouck, Washington's host at Newburgh. Another was Johannis Decker, reputed to be the first Dutch lawyer in New Amsterdam.

Abramson,
Bachman,
Banghart,
Berne, Et
Bernsteir
Bjorkma
Boedick
Brengle
Burfel
Caril,
Cattu
Corbe
Cour
Coyl
Cra
Da
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Ec
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F
F
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And We the undersigned jointly on Oath certify before William Elliot Judge of Her Majesty's County Court in the County of Middlesex Ontario and Dominion of Canada aforesaid that the Release or Surrender was assented to and executed by the Chiefs and principal Members of the Band of Oneida Indians residing on the Indian Reserve in the Township of Delaware assembled at a Meeting of such Band summoned for that purpose and who were entitled to vote thereat.

Robt Mackenzie I.S.I.
John Nickles, chief

...e me
...y in the
Middlesex
...e of Ontario
...minion of Canada
... of January
... of ...
...nd Eight
... and twenty ...

Wm Elliot
Judge of the County Court
[illegible]

X014871

MAR 8 9 27 AM '73

Oneida
INDIAN RESERVE NO. 41
Ont

Surrender # 127

NUMBER OF PIECES 2

Know All [illegible]

We the undersigned Chiefs and principal [illegible] Band of Indians owning the Indian Reserve [illegible] Delaware, in the County of Middlesex and [illegible] Dominion of Canada for and acting on behalf of our people release, surrender, quit claim, and yield up unto Our Sovereign [illegible] the Queen, her heirs and Successors forever, all and singular those certain parcels of land forming portions of the above named Reserve and as laid down on the annexed plan, and which may be known and described as follows:–

Thirteen hundredths of One Acre of Lot No. 17 in Con: A; Five Acres and Eighty-four hundredths of an Acre of Lot No. 20 in Con: A; Eight Acres and twenty-four hundredths of an Acre of Lot No. 20 in Con: B; One Acre and Sixty hundredths of an Acre of Lot No. 21 in Con: B; Seven Acres and Sixty-seven hundredths of an Acre of Lot 21 in Con: C; Three Acres and Seventeen hundredths of an Acre of Lot 22 in Con: C; Five Acres and Sixty-five hundredths of an Acre of Lot 22 in Con: D; Six Acres of Lot No. 23 in Con: D containing together Thirty five Acres and thirty hundredths of an Acre of the said Township of Delaware, be the same more or less, in order that the same may be sold to the Canada Southern Railway Company in consideration of the Sum of Seven hundred [illegible] the amount awarded on the 27th day of October 1871 as the value of the same by Arbitrators chosen for that [illegible]

And whereas [illegible] the [illegible] passing to the individual Indians [illegible] the said lines of Railway [illegible] the value of their improvements affected by the same [illegible] the said Arbitrators appointed to value the same, that [illegible] of our Band and the Interest [illegible] among [illegible], or otherwise, should the same be [illegible] in Council, that [illegible] the interest may be allowed to form a fund, subject to be drawn on by [illegible] for public purposes of advantage to our people that may from time to time arise.

In Witness whereof We the Chiefs and principal men of the [illegible] Band aforesaid have set our hands and [illegible] this [illegible] instrument at Delaware aforesaid this Seventeenth day of January in the Year of One thousand Eight hundred and Seventy two.

Signed sealed and delivered in the presence of
Robt. Mackenzie V.S.C.
Thos. Cawthorp

Moses Brown his X mark, Chief.
John Tick (?) , Chief.
Cornelius Ireland his X mark Chief.
Augustus Cornelius his X mark, Chief.
William White his X mark, Chief.
Peter Powlis his X mark. Chief.
Daniel Canada his X mark Chief.
Henry Antoine his X mark Chief.
Baptiste Schuyler his X mark Chief.
John Dumford his X mark Chief.
Thomas Homer his X mark
William Doxtater his X mark
Thomas Doxtater his X mark
William Cornelius his X mark
Anthony Day his X mark
Lewis Thomas his X mark
Jacob Antoine his X mark
[illegible] Thomas
Principal Men

L.S.

Frederick Haldimand Captain General and Governor in Chief of the Province of Quebec and Territories depending thereon &c &c &c General and Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces in said Province and the Frontiers thereof &c &c &c

Registered 20 March 1795 signed W. [illegible]

Whereas His Majesty having been pleased to direct that in consideration of the early attachment to his cause manifested by the Mohawk Indians and of the loss of their settlement which they thereby sustained, — that a convenient Tract of Land under his protection should be chosen as a safe and comfortable retreat for them and others of the Six Nations who have either lost their settlements within the Territory of the American States, or wish to retire from them to the British. — I have at the earnest desire of many of these His Majesty's faithful Allies, purchased a Tract of Land from the Indians situated between the Lakes Ontario, Erie and Huron. And I do hereby in His Majesty's name authorise and permit the said Mohawk Nation and such others of the Six Nations Indians as wish to settle in that quarter, to take possession of and settle upon the Banks of the River commonly called Ours or Grand River, running into Lake Erie, allotting to them for that purpose six miles deep from each side of the River, beginning at Lake Erie and extending in that proportion to the head of the said River, which them and their posterity are to enjoy for ever.

Given under my Hand and Seal at Arms at the Castle of St. Lewis at Quebec this Twenty-fifth day of October One thousand seven hundred and Eighty-four, and in the Twenty-fifth year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lord George the Third by the Grace of God of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King Defender of the Faith and so forth.

By His Excellency's Command. Signed
Signed R. Mathews Fred: Haldimand.

A true Copy from the Record.
Signed Wm. Jarvis Register
Province of Upper Canada

25: Octr: 1784 –

Copy of General Haldimand's
Grant to the Mohawk
Indians of a Tract of Land
purchased for them on the
Grand River

David John, x [L.S.]
Seneca Johnson, x [L.S.]
William Buck, x [L.S.]
Abram Maracle, x [L.S.]
John General, x [L.S.]
Wm. Green, [L.S.]
Wm. Longfish, x [L.S.]
John Fishcarrier, x [L.S.]
John General, Sr., x [L.S.]
N. H. Burning, [L.S.]
Josh. Monture, x [L.S.]
Geo. Monture, x [L.S.]
Jacob Silversmith, x [L.S.]
John Hill, [L.S.]
James Monture, x [L.S.]
Wm. Jacobs, x [L.S.]
Elijah Johnson, x [L.S.]
John Carpenter, [L.S.]
John Buck, x [L.S.]
Geo. Buck, x [L.S.]
Jacob Jimison. [L.S.]

And we hereby certify that the above release or surrender has been assented to and executed by the Chiefs of the Six Nations Indians.

S. I. JONES,
Judge of the County Court aforesaid.
J. T. GILKISON,
Visiting Superintendent and Commissioner.

Provincial Registrar's Office,
Ottawa, 12th January, 1866.

I hereby certify that this surrender has been duly entered on the records of this Department in Lib. C.S. of Surrenders to the Crown, Folio 265.

GEO. H. LANE,
Deputy Provincial Registrar.

No. 106.

Frederick Haldimand, Captain General and Governor in Chief of the Province of Quebec and Territories depending thereon, &c., &c., &c., General and Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces in said Province and the Frontiers thereof, &c., &c., &c.

Whereas His Majesty having been pleased to direct that in consideration of the early attachment to His cause manifested by the Mohawk Indians and of the loss of their settlement which they thereby sustained that a convenient tract of land under His protection should be chosen as a safe and comfortable retreat for them and others of the Six Nations who have either lost their settlements within the Territory of the American States or wish to retire from them to the British. I have at the earnest desire of many of these His Majesty's faithful allies purchased a tract of land from the Indians situated between the Lakes Ontario, Erie and Huron, and I do hereby in His Majesty's name authorize and permit the said Mohawk Nation and such others of the Six Nation Indians as wish to settle in that quarter to take possession of and settle upon the banks of the river commonly called Ouse or Grand River, running into Lake Erie, allotting to them for that purpose six miles deep from each side of the river, beginning at Lake Erie and extending in that proportion to the head of the said river, which them and their posterity are to enjoy for ever.

Given under my hand and seal at arms at the Castle of St. Lewis, at Quebec, this twenty-fifth day of October, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-four, and in the twenty-fifth year of the reign of Our Sovereign Lord George the Third by the Grace of God of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith and so forth.

FREDERICK HALDIMAND.

By His Excellency's command.

R. MATHEWS.

Registered 20th March, 1795. }
Wm. Jarvis. }

Provincial Registrar's Office,
Quebec, 23rd June, 1862.

I hereby certify the within to be a true and faithful copy of the record of the original grant, as entered in Lib. A., Folio 8 (manuscript.)

WM. KENT,
Deputy Provincial Registrar.

No. 107.

Whereas, the Chippewa Indians of Sarnia in General Council assembled upon their reserve on Wednesday, the twelfth day of December, in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, at which were present about one hundred of our Chiefs, Principal Men and Warriors, did covenant and agree with William Spragge, Esquire, Deputy Superintendent of Indian Affairs, for the Province of Canada, and Robert Mackenzie, Esquire, our Visiting Superintendent, to surrender and yield up to Our Sovereign Lady the Queen to be sold for the benefit of our people so much of our said reserve containing about seven hundred and fifty acres, and situate immediately adjoining the Town of Sarnia as lies between the present southerly limit of the said town and the track and land set apart for the Great Western Railway, subject nevertheless upon the said lands being sub-divided into town lots to a grant being made by the Crown respectively to Chiefs Joshua Wawanosh of a town lot upon which his dwelling house now stands, to David Wawanosh of a town lot upon which his dwelling house now stands, and to William Wawanosh of a town lot upon which his dwelling house now stands, and likewise of a town lot upon which his barn now stands, and to compensation being made to them through the officers of Indian Affairs for the loss of improved lands to be given up by them for sale, situate upon the lands comprehended by this surrender, and in consideration likewise of there being relinquished, and which has been destroyed, a certain quit-claim deed executed by the Chippewas of Sarnia comprehending two hundred acres of land forming the north-westerly part of the said reserve. Know therefore all men by these presents that we, Joshua Wawanosh, David Wawanosh, William Wawanosh, George Aishquagonaby, Thomas Nahyahnaquodt, Jacob Pethadick, Antoine Rodd, Francis Laviar, Nicholas Plain, John Johnston, William Wahbuck, Isaac Shahwahnoo and David Sappah, the Chiefs, Principal Men and Warriors of the Sarnia Indians, do hereby by and with the consent of our people and on their behalf hereby convey, surrender and yield up to Our Sovereign Lady the Queen Her heirs and successors absolutely and for ever so much of the said Sarnia Reserve comprising about seven hundred and fifty acres, as lies as aforesaid between the southerly limit of the Town of Sarnia and the track, and land appropriated and used by the Great Western Railway, subject to the conditions aforesaid, and likewise that the interest to be derived from the proceeds of the said lands when sold, shall be divided and paid over to our people at semi-annual periods at the same time as it is the custom to pay our annuities and interest monies.

my way in performance of my trip thro' the Lakes, rivers, &c. You will observe by this that I have chang'd my route & commence for the Westw^{d} here up the N^{o} river, thence to the Lakes, thro' the Lakes to Detroit & thence to the Ohio—from the Ohio home. Upon the Ohio I purchase horses. Perhaps I may visit Montreal. Had I a month more to spare, I wo^{d} go to Boston, up the Kennebeck river, to Quebec & thence on. I will certainly see all that my time will admit of. It is possible I may lose my scalp from the temper of the Indians, but if either a little fighting or great deal of running will save it I shall escape safe. I sit out up the N^{o} river in very agreeable company, M^{r} Vaughn & family are of the party. I am y^{r} affect. fn^{d}, etc. JA^{s} MONROE.

TO GOVERNOR BENJAMIN HARRISON.[1]

TRENTON, Oct. 30, 1784.

SIR,—I have the honor to inform your Excellency that I arrived here last night, and can with pleasure add we have the prospect of a representation of the states in a few days. As yet neither of my colleagues have joined me; but I understand Mr. Lee is in Phil^{a}, and of course expect him to-day. In a visit I lately made by the North river to the lakes, in the necessity I was under of returning thro' Canada to the States, I was informed of some of the measures adopted by the British Government in that province, which I conceived highly interesting to us; that the commanding officer had received orders to retain the possession of the posts which fell within our lines by the treaty, and which sho^{d} have been evacuated sometime since, and that many of the vessels on the lakes, laid aside under the provisional treaty for a peace establishment were again put in commission. This information I had from authority so respectable as to gain my entire assent, which further added that this procedure was founded on the conduct of the States of New York and Virginia, which they accuse of having violated the treaty. From every information I could obtain I have reason to believe that the temper of that court is very unfriendly to us and that they require only the most flimsy pretext to create a rupture; their councils are, it is true, in a divided state, but, in the talents and superior popularity of Mr. Pitt, this may not long be the case. I have thought it my duty to give to y^{r} Excellency this information and have the honor to be with great respect and esteem

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[1] Courteously supplied by Lyon G. Tyler, President of the College of William and Mary, who states in his "Letters and Times of the Tylers" that a letter similar to this was written by Mr. Monroe to Mr. Tyler, then Speaker of the House of Delegates.

Your most humble servant,

JA^{S}. MONROE.

TO THOMAS JEFFERSON.

TRENTON, Nov. 1, 1784.

DEAR SIR,—Two days since I arriv'd here after performing a tour up the North river by fort Stanwix down the wood-creek, thro' y^{e} Oneida Ontario & (by the Niagara falls) part of lake Erie, thence back by Niagara thro' y^{e} Ontario by Coolton Island thro' the S^{t} Laurence to Montreal & from Montreal over lake which I conceived highly interesting to us; that the commanding officer had received orders to retain the possession of the posts which fell within our lines by the treaty, and which sho^{d} have been evacuated sometime since, and that many of the vessels on the lakes, laid aside under the provisional treaty for a peace establishment were again put in commission. This information I had from authority so respectable as to gain my entire assent, which further added that this procedure was founded on the conduct of the States of New York and Virginia, which they accuse of having violated the treaty. From every information I could obtain I have reason to believe that the temper of that court is very unfriendly to us and that they require only the most flimsy pretext to create a rupture; their councils are, it is true, in a divided state, but, in the talents and superior popularity of Mr. Pitt, this may not long be the case. I have thought it my duty to give to y^{r} Excellency this information and have the honor to be with great respect and esteem

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Champlain by Albany to N. York again. You find I have taken a route different from the one I intended, as my object was to take in my view the practicability also of a communication from Lake Erie down the Potowmack. But from this I was dissuaded by an accident wh. happen'd to some of the party upon lake Erie, with whom I came from fort Stanwix to Niagara. I had separated from them by accident three days before the event. They landed near some Indian huts (a Mr. Teller from Schenactady with four men in a batteaux) & were fir'd on by those Indians, Mr. Teller & two men killed & a 4th. wounded; the latter with the 5th. made their escape. The indian chiefs highly reprehended the act & were, at the earnest instigation of the gentlemen of the Brit'h garrison, endeavoring to detect & bring the villains to justice. Upon advice of this disaster Colo. Depeister, commanding at Niagara, sent an Express to me just entering upon Lake Erie advising my return, with wh I complied & took the above route to this place. My excursion hath been attended with great personal exposure & hardship & much greater expence than I had expected. It hath, however, I hope been advantageous to me in some respects. I have ascertain'd I believe with some accuracy the different degrees of difficulty from Michelemachinac down the Grand river to Montreal, thro' the Lakes to Montreal and by the North river. The preference is, at least so far, in favor of the North river. The first leisure time I have I will take the route of Fort Pitt to Lake Erie & form some estimate in that direction.

Here I find the country from Montreal much richer than I had expected although I am of opinion L'd Sheffield's expectations are visionary in his calculation that it will supply the Islands with flour & lumber. Still I think it has great resources in those articles, but the best timber is high up the river, w'h together with the difficulty of getting it down the rapids & thro' the gulph of the S't Lawrence to the West Indies must make it an expensive trade to them, more expensive I am told than that from the Baltic. If I were to estimate the present or the probable future value of Canada to the Brit'h dominion, consider'd in a commercial light and compare it with the expense necessarily incurr'd if they keep up a military establishment in supporting it, I sho'd think Britain wo'd act a politic part in relinquishing it and the not doing it satisfies me she either has or will have other objects. Under the bounds of the U. S., by the late treaty, the principal part of the fur trade must leave it & run in some channel within the U. S. The merchants established or connected in it, the batteaux men and other dependents will take the same course. This will increase the expense of their government in supplying their upper ports in Canada as the price of hands will be higher and the means scarcer. In addition to those difficulties which nature has thrown in her way, others will exist under their government to which ours will be a stranger at present. No merchant is allowed to build vessels on the lakes, but must, if he takes the course, avail himself of those of government and this exposes them to constant and most oppressive impositions. Their peltries are subject to duties and preference passes from Lake Superior to Montreal. The duties may be taken off but the preference passes can not be prevented; while the restraints on their trade are high it will be our policy to increase them in every instance wherein they depend on us; while we give those within our bounds great indulgences we must prohibit under high penalties all commerce between the U. S. and Canada; prohibit their landing or storing their goods on our side under at least thirty per cent advalorem at the place where landed. Canada I consider as standing upon different ground with regard to us from any other part of the Dominions. A free intercourse between us and the people of Canada can, in my opinion, only be advantageous to them & will defeat any political arrangement we can adopt respecting them. By prohibiting them the participation of the advantages which we possess, we occasion them great difficulty. Their merchants might get their goods much cheaper up the North river than the S't Lawrence and until we permit them to navigate on our shore from y^{e} commencement of the Ontario they are depriv'd of the possibility of navigating it except in vessels of considerable burden. If they take the North instead in batteaux they must go round the lake seventy miles above Niagara & down the other side before they reach it for the passage is impracticable there. I submit to you these observations that you may judge what right they sho^{d} have in forming a treaty of commerce. The English ministry will, I am satisfied, readily agree it shall be so framed as to exclude the U. S. from a free intercourse with Canada. Their jealousy will tell them to beware how they admit it lest the sweets of those rights which we enjoy might invite them to us; but the people of Canada will be more sensible of our blessings by the restraints laid on them. They will feel their own misfortunes and envy the blessings to be attained under the protection of the federal arm. In the meantime the acquisition of Canada is not an object with us, we must make valuable what we have already acquired & at the same time take such measures as will weaken it as a British province.

As yet we have not a representation of the States but expect it in a few days. This will certainly be a very important and interesting session. In Canada I was informed that the commanding officer had received orders not to evacuate the posts and that many of the vessels laid aside under the provisional treaty had again been put in commission on the Lakes, a measure s'd to be founded upon the supposed violating of the treaty by New York and Virginia. The latter in not repealing the laws prohibiting the recovery of British debts & the former in confiscations. But if their conduct is unauthoriz'd is this the way to obtain redress? I trust that the conduct of Congress upon this occasion will be firm though temperate but indeed we are in a poor condition for war; we may lose much but can gain nothing. The minister of finance has arriv'd here to present his comm'n to Congress. Those lately appointed in his stead are too diffident I am told of themselves to succeed him; two I hear have resign'd; the situation is difficult but the road for Congress to take appears to me a plain one; an arrangement superseding his office hath taken place. He must bid us farewell; if those already appointed will not serve, others must be appointed in their stead. Our Indian commissioners have quarreled with the State of New York: the State also held a treaty with the Indians which preceded ours: to this they took exception; the affair will, however, easily be accommodated. The delegations are generally the same; Williamson is here, but it is said Spaight will dispute his right to sit. Pinckney instead of Beresford; Georgia has a Houston and Gibons here, the former has been to Europe to leave behind him what little wit he had, and the latter I believe never had any, or very little; he is, however, a married man & I hear well intentioned. The court of Pennsylvania sentenc'd the man who made the attack on Mr. Marbois to pay y^{e} fine of 200 dol^{rs} & to suffer two years imprisonment. With this he is dissatisfied. Will the court of France be so.[1] I will write you very fully so soon as we have a Congress & by every packet & private opportunity & beg of you to do the same. I have not heard from you since you left Phil'a; perhaps your letters to me are in Virg^{a} if you have wrote. I reach'd New York 10 days after Mr. Short left it. I wish^{d} to have seen him. I hope yourself & Miss Patsy are well. Where shall I address to you? I am with the greatest respect & esteem, Dear Sir, your friend & servant JA^{s} MONROE.

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[1] Cypher to this point.

trade but the loss of the settlement also; for an opposition on the part of government to the extension of water transportation, so consonant with the essential interests of a large body of people, or any extraordinary impositions upon the exports or imports to or from another State, would ultimately bring on a separation between its eastern and western settlements; towards which there is not wanting a disposition at this moment in that part of it beyond the mountains. I consider Rumsey's discovery for working boats against stream, by mechanical powers (principally), as not only a very fortunate invention for these States in general, but as one of those circumstances, which have combined to render the present epocha favorable above all others for fixing, if we are disposed to avail ourselves of them, a large portion of the trade of the western country in the bosom of this State irrevocably.

Long as this letter is, I intended to have written a fuller and more digested one, upon this important subject; but have met with so many interruptions since my return home, as almost to have precluded my writing at all. What I now give is crude; but if you are in sentiment with me, I have said enough; if there is not an accordance of opinion, I have said too much; and all I pray in the latter case is, that you will do me the justice to believe my motives are pure, however erroneous my judgment may be in this matter, and that I am, with the most perfect esteem and friendship,

Dear Sir, yours, &c.[1]

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[1] Governor Harrison replied: "I was in great hopes of seeing you here before this, that I might acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 10th of

TO JACOB READ.

MOUNT VERNON, 3 November, 1784.

SIR

* * * What may be the result of the Indian treaty I know not; equally unacquainted am I with the instructions or powers given to the Commissioners :—

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last month in person, and tell you how much I approve of your plan for opening the navigation of the western waters. The letter was so much more explicit than I could be, that I took the liberty to lay it before the Assembly, who appear so impressed with the utility of the measure, that I dare say they will order the survey you propose immediately, and will at their next sitting proceed to carry the plan into execution."—Richmond, November 13th.

When Washington went to Richmond to meet the Marquis de Lafayette, 15 November, 1784, he conferred with some members of the Assembly on the subject, and then accompanied the Marquis to Annapolis. To Madison and Joseph Jones he wrote from Mount Vernon on the 28th: "In one word, it should seem to me, that if the public cannot take it up with efficient funds, and without those delays which might be involved by a limping conduct, it had better be placed in the hands of a corporate company."

Madison has fully recorded the subsequent steps, in a letter to Jefferson, dated 9 January, 1785:

"Shortly after his [Washington's] departure, a joint memorial from a number of Citizens of Virginia and Maryland, interested in the Potomac, was presented to the Assembly, stating the practicability and importance of the work, and praying for an act of incorporation, and grant of perpetual toll to the undertaking of it. A bill had been prepared at the same meeting which produced the memorial, and was transmitted to Richmond at the same time. A like memorial and bill went to Annapolis, where the Legislature of Maryland was sitting.

"The Assembly here lent a ready ear to the project; but a difficulty arose from the height of the tolls proposed, the danger of destroying the uniformity essential in the proceedings of the two States by altering them, and the scarcity of time for negociating with Maryland a bill satisfactory to both States. Short as the time was, however, the attempt was decided on, and the negociation committed to General Washington himself. General Gates, who happened to be in the way, and Col. Blackburn, were associated with him. The latter did not act; the two former pushed immediately to Annapolis, where the sickness of General Gates threw the whole agency on General Washington. By his exertions, in concert with Committees of the two branches of the Legislature, an amendment of the plan was digested in a few days, passed through both houses in one day, with nine dissenting voices only, and dispatched for Richmond, but if a large cession of territory is expected from them, a disappointment I think will ensue; for the Indians, I have been told, will not yield to the proposal. Nor can I see wherein lies the advantages of it, if they would at a first purchase, unless a *number* of States, tho' thinly inhabited would be *more* than a counterpoize in the *political scale,* for progressive and compact settlements. Such is the rage for speculat-

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where it arrrived just in time for the close of the Session. A corresponding act was immediately introduced, and passed without opposition.

"The scheme declares that the subscribers shall be an incorporated body; that there shall be 500 shares, amounting to about 220,000 dollars, of which the States of Virginia and Maryland are each to take 50 shares; that the tolls shall be collected in three portions, at the three principal falls, and with the works vest as real estate in the members of the Company; and that the works shall be begun within one year and finished within ten years, under the penalty of entire forfeiture.

"Previous to the receipt of the act from Annapolis, a bill on a different plan had been brought in and proceeded on for clearing James River. It proposed that the subscriptions should be taken by Trustees, and, under their management, solemnly appropriated to the object in view; that they should be regarded as a loan to the State, should bear an interest of 10 per cent and should entitle the subscriber to the double of the principal remaining undischarged at the end of a moderate period; and that the tolls to be collected shall stand inviolably pledged for both principal and interest. It was thought better for the public to present this exuberant harvest to the subscribers than to grant them a perpetuity in the tolls. In the case of the Potomac, which depended on another authority as well as our own, we were less at liberty to consider what would be best in itself. Exuberant, however, as the harvest appeared, it was pronounced by good judges an inadequate bait for subscriptions, even from those otherwise interested in the work, and on the arrival and acceptance of the Potomac plan, it was found advisable to pass a similar one in favor of James River. The circumstantial variations in the latter are: 1. The sum to be aimed at in the first instance is 100,000 Dollars only. 2. The shares, which are the same in number with those of Potomac, are reduced to 200 Dollars each, and the number of public shares raised to 100. 3. The tolls are reduced to half of the aggregate of the Potomac tolls. 4. In case the falls at this place, where alone tolls are to be paid, shall be first opened, the Company are permitted to receive the tolls immediately, and continue to do so till the lapse of ing in, and forestalling of lands on the No. West of the Ohio, that scarce a valuable spot, within any tolerable distance of it, is left without a claimant. Men in these times talk with as much facility of fifty, an hundred, and even 500,000 Acres, as a gentleman formerly would do of 1,000. In defiance of the proclamation of Congress, they roam over the country on the Indian side of the Ohio—mark out

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ten years, within which the whole river is to be made navigable. 5. A right of pre-emption is reserved to the public on all transfers of shares. These acts are very lengthy, and having passed in all the precipitancy which marks the concluding stages of a session, abound, I fear, with inaccuracies.

"In addition to these acts, joint resolutions have passed the Legislatures of Maryland and Virginia for clearing a road from the head of the Potomac navigation to Cheat river, or if necessary to Monongalia, and 3,333⅓ dollars are voted for the work by each State. Pennsylvania is also to be applied to by the Governors of the two States for leave to clear a road through her jurisdiction, if it should be found necessary, from Potomac to Yohogania; to which the Assembly here have added a proposition to unite with Maryland in representing to Pennsylvania the advantages which will accrue on a part of her citizens from opening the proposed communication with the Sea, and the reasonableness of her securing to those who are to be at the expense the use of her waters as a thoroughfare to and from the Country beyond her limits, free from all imposts and restrictions whatever, and as a channel of trade with her citizens, free from greater imposts than may be levied on any other channel of importation. This resolution did not pass till it was too late to refer it to General Washington's negociations with Maryland. It now makes a part of the task alloted to the Commissioners who are to settle with Maryland the jurisdiction and navigation of Potomac, below tide water. By another Resolution of this State, persons are to be forthwith appointed by the Executive to survey the upper parts of James River, the country through which a road must pass to the navigable waters of New River. and these waters down to the Ohio. I am told by a member of the Assembly, who seems to be well acquainted both with the intermediate ground and with the western waters in question, that a road of 25 or 30 miles in length will link these waters with James River, and will strike a branch of the former which yields a fine navigation, and falls into the main stream of the Kenhawa below the only obstructions lying in this river down to the Ohio. If these be facts James River will have a great superiority over Potomac, the road from which to Cheat river is, indeed, computed by General

Lands, survey and even settle on them. This gives great discontent to the Indians, and will, unless measures are taken in time to prevent it, inevitably produce a war with the western tribes. To avoid which there appears to me to be only these ways. Purchase if possible as much land of them immediately back of us, as would make one or two States, according to the extent Congress design, or would

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Washington at 20 miles only, but he thinks the expence of making the latter navigable will require a continuation of the road to Monongalia, which will lengthen it to forty miles. The road to Yohogania is computed by the General at 30 miles.

"By another resolution, commissioners are to be appointed to survey the ground for a canal between the waters of Elizabeth river and those of North Carolina, and in case the best course for such a canal shall require the concurrence of that State, to concert a joint plan and report the same to the next session of Assembly. Besides the trade which will flow through this channel from North Carolina to Norfolk, the large district of Virginia watered by the Roanoake will be doubled in its value by it.

"The Treasurer is by this act directed to subscribe 50 shares in the Potomac and 100 shares in the James River companies, which shall vest in General Washington and his heirs. This mode of adding some substantial to the many rewards bestowed on him was deemed least injurious to his delicacy, as well as least dangerous as a precedent. It was submitted in place of a direct pension, urged on the House by the indiscreet zeal of some of his friends. Though it will not be an equivalent succor in all respects, it will save the General from subscriptions which would have oppressed his finances; and if the schemes be executed within the period fixed, may yield a revenue for some years before the term of his. At all events, it will demonstrate the grateful wishes of his Country, and will promote the object which he has so much at heart. The earnestness with which he espouses the undertaking is hardly to be described, and shews that a mind like his, capable of great views, and which has long been occupied with them, cannot bear a vacancy; and surely he could not have chosen an occupation more worthy of succeeding to that of establishing the political rights of his Country than the patronage of works for the extensive and lasting improvement of its natural advantages; works which will be double the value of half the lands within the Commonwealth, will extend its commerce, link with its interests those of the Western States, and lessen the emigration of its citizens by enhancing the profitableness of situations which they now desert in search of better."

wish to have them of, and which may be fully adequate to all our present purposes—fix such a price upon the lands so purchased, as would not be too exorbitant and burthensome for real occupiers; but high enough to discourage monopolizers. Declare all steps heretofore taken to procure land on the northwest side of the Ohio, contrary to the prohibition of Congress, to be null and void—and that any person thereafter, who shall presume to mark, survey, or settle on lands beyond the limit of the new States, or purchased lands, shall not only be considered as outlaws, but fit subjects for Indian vengeance.

If these or similar measures are adopted, I have no doubt of Congress's deriving a very considerable revenue from the western territory. But lands, like other commodities rise or fall in proportion to the quantity at market; consequently, a higher price may be obtained by the acre, for as much as will constitute one or two States, than can be had if ten States were offered for sale at the same time—besides extending the benefits, and deriving all the advantages of law and government from them at once, neither of which can be done in sparse settlements, where nothing is thought of but scrambling for land, which may involve confusion and bloodshed.

It is much to be regretted, that the slow determinations of Congress involve many evils—'tis much easier to avoid mischiefs than to apply remedies when they have happened. Had Congress paid an earlier attention to, or decided sooner on Indian affairs, matters would have been in a more favorable train than they now are; and if they are longer delayed, they will grow worse. Twelve months ago the Indians would have listened to propositions of any kind with more readiness than they will do now:—the terms of the peace frightened them, and they were disgusted with G. B. for making such. Bribery, and every address which British art could dictate have been practised since to soothe them, to estrange them from us, and to secure their trade. To what other causes can be ascribed their holding our western posts so long after the ratifications of the treaty, contrary to the spirit, tho' they do it under the letter of it. To remove their garrison and stores cannot be the work of a week; for if report is true, they have only to shift them to the opposite side of the line. But it is now more than twelve months since I foretold what has happened, and I shall not be surprized if they leave us *no Posts* to occupy; for if they *mean* to surrender them *at all*, they may fix upon a season, or appoint a short day perhaps for the evacuation when no relief can be had. And Congress having repeatedly called for an evacuation, will hardly know how to act, especially as they will be in no condition to take possession of the posts:—for to do it properly requires time; as ordnance, stores, provisions and other articles, as well as garrisons are not to be established in a moment, even where boats and other conveniences, of which I question much whether you have any, are at hand. This being the case, there will be an interregnum during which the works will be left without guards; and being obnoxious to our late enemy, *now no doubt staunch friends* with Indian prejudices in aid, will be the cause of *accidental* fires, or Indian drunkenness, in which the whole will end in conflagration, or, I shall be mistaken. * * *

TO GEORGE CLINTON, GOVERNOR OF NEW YORK.

MOUNT VERNON, 25 November, 1784.

MY DEAR SIR,

A few days ago I had the pleasure to receive your favor of the 12th instant. Although I felt pain from your silence, I should have imputed that silence to any cause, rather than a diminution of friendship. I feel this passion for you too strongly implanted in my own breast, to harbor a suspicion of it in yours, where I flatter myself it is reciprocal, unless I had done something to deserve it, of which I am not conscious.

It gives me great pleasure to learn from yourself, that the State over which you preside is tranquil. Would to God it may ever remain so, and that all others may follow the example. Internal dissensions, and jarring with our neighbors, are not only productive of mischievous consequences as it respects ourselves, but have a tendency to lessen our national character and importance in the eyes of European powers. If any thing can, this will, expose us to their intriguing politics, and may shake the Union.

It has been my avowed and uniform opinion, ever since the interview between Baron de Steuben and General Haldimand last year, that, whilst a pretext

De-gyaton-da-ri-gon 6th November 1784

gyatyo genthe wa ak-gwak-tho Desi-ren-de-ron

Ne-go-ra aethari-go-wa. Da-ye-honwaghgwattha

dagaght-tanti Thegon Thi-ho-nat-gen-ni-son

Onen enskat tho-na-datti-nigengeries {Congreſs} =

Wa-atyonk-hi-nonghwenaton netontye-rongh-de

Onuntin-non wagh-hen-ron Ne-yon gwat-gen-

~~n~~itsa-agh-ton rao-ntse-de-wari-wagh-serron-ni,

Dende-wa-yatto-gon yoda-wet-that-on ne waghshet-

kea Eren entsinde-wa-ha-righ-de ſſca ne oni nen-

gwagh-ro-ri Desi-ni-yawea-on ne Go-ragh-go-wa-

nea thea-nen thon-sa-ya-gyaton, Desi-ni-

yon-ge-ni-righ-we-ston Kayeron-nitston

Desitin-ya-gyaton-wen jakhea agarigon nenon-

tho Desi-ni-yongwade-ryen-dare ni etsdagwagh-

ro-ri thade yoſſca ne oni Waghatroare Desi-yagh-

de-yagwayadare ni yongwe-on-we Desi-theanen

sagh-satton ne Go-ragh-gowa Wastonghro-non-

tsadi-se-wagh-tkawe | yegh-ón-tesi | orti agawégon;
Desi-nigon | yon-da-tyé-na | nón-wa | Tade-ri-yagh-ne |
Etho | tagh-hi | ent-ga-yagh-dagh-gwe | ea-yongwa-da-righ-
wagh-ten-tyá-se | ne Kaya-ni-ren-se-ra | ea-se-swá-ton | i
Oea: Seon | na-e-de-swa-ye-ró-ni-s-de | Desi-non-we +
Ta-da-e-de-swa-tongh-wen-tsyak-hea | Se ná-gwa-da
e-se-swa-yato-regh-de | ne ~~[illegible]~~ ag-n-kea-ha-ke | ne de-ja-son | 22
a yon-gwe-ryen-ti-yo; | ga-nó-ron | yon-k-hi-ga-ro-da-ri | ne ne,
Desi-nagh-he | Ta-de-ri-yogh-ne | {Soldiers Sha-dar} yongwea;
Ongh-wen-ja | en-ya-gwa-ga-rya-ge, | Onea | non-swa-ró-
ton | se-wa-ga-ryâak | Oea: Etho | nyá-se | wagh-hea-ron |
Sha-gon | oghes-ton-ha | tya-da-tea-ron | i 21
Tyagh-tya-gi-há-ga | Sha-jardadi | Dagh-ha-dá-ti; 12
Gwa-yea-ogowa | Se-nitsya-gea | ne se-wat-dé-rike,
Se ga-ya-ne-righ-se-ra, | kea non-wa de-se-wagh-thase, |
Wa-gathó-nise | to-kea-t-ge | ne kea | 2 capital I ní-I-I | Shaon-gwa-nigon-
rat ~~Rat~~, Americans Wastogh-ro-non, | Spaniards Skwa-yengh-ro-non | Holland- On-se-ronni
ers onwe-ya-ne-re | oni-se | Sha-ni-gon-rat | keahaky ~~[illegible]~~ ne 21
yon-gwe-on-we ne oni | Desi-ni-ya-we-ron | Shon-da-
yon-da-ri-yo | ga-na-da-se-ge-yon gwa-tge-ri-ni-sonyon-sea
wa-a-ni Yogh-sa-swa-ts-de-ri-d se-wa-nongh-e-yónni
yagh-ni-se | Da-t-wa-de-ryen-da-re | tesi-ni-gari-hóten,
O-

120

Go-ragh-go-wa | ra-o-ri-wa | Ne wag-ye-ren | wagh-hey-
~~[illegible]~~ ron; | She-gon ga-ti | Sagh-ha ok | Se-wa-tse-de-ris-
ton, | O-nea | non-kea | non-wa | ne se-wa-ya-da-wea-
yagh | te se-wa-ya-da-re | tsi-tkea-nea | Sa-ya-gwa-
ton; | Etho | o-nea ga-ti | rii | sa-gagh-tea-ti. |

Ne ga-ti | ok-tha-ok | wa-gwa-righ-wat-te-ra-gon. |
Rak-ke-ni | O-nea | wagh-se-ri-ho=ok-tea | ni-ya-wea |
Ren-ne-e | tsi-ni-gon | wagh-se-re | ga-da-ti; |
Agwe-~~gon~~-gon | yon-gwa-de-yen-da-re | tsi-non-wa | ni-
gon | dagh-sa-da-ti | Iwa-hi | egh-ni-yon-gwa-ye-ri-a, | yagh-
ga-ti | de-yon-gwa-ri-gon-rhea-on | thi-yon-gwegh-ton |
O-ri-wa yon-gwagh-s-ton-ton | Ga-righ-wa-ga-yon | tha-righ-
Wis-son | On-gwa-te-no-ro | ne Go-ragh-go-wa | tyo-~~t~~-gon | Se-
Oni | Shit-sa-de-ri-yo | ya-gwa-ya-da-regh-gwe, | Are |
~~[illegible]~~ | togh-non | yagh-teh-ga-righ-wa-ye-ri | tsi wagh-sa-
tya-da-ren, | yagh-non-we-a-ton | te-se wa-te-~~no~~-ron | nok ni |
Etho | Tsi-na-a-wen, | n'on-gwa-ni-gon-ra; | agwe-gon
~~Da~~ da ya-gwa-righ-wa-ye-ri-de. | Etho | O-nea | Ga-ya-tyoh. |

Ne o-ko-ni | sa-at-ge-righ-wa-to-gea-de, | Ees | sa-ni-
Yo-ri-wa-ge | a-re-tho | Thi-yon-gwa-ri-wa-te-sak-wea
da-wa-gagh-tea-tyon | 133 ^ Sa-ya-at-gon-nongh-we-ra-ton |
On-wa-nongh-sis-on oni | agwe-gon | agh-sat gea-ro-ri
^ Ken-nen [illegible]

yagh| a nyagh te so| tsi de ha te wen na a ethats

Se was ton ro non Ethō|

121

gyatyo| agwa wa gon yen ni ten da se| —

De wa ga ton wen jon ni| ne da on dagh Stha we

Dsō ra ya da re| ne rat ye tsi gen ha| John Hill

gagh ya tough Serra| nok ne| wa at ro ri| ne t-

Tha yen da ne gen| O nen ro ga rya gon ga ragh

gwa tir on| nok ne| ne i| Dsō ri ge ni ya da re| — 2d

yon Sa ha ha we| ne ga ra| a Stha re go wa| ne —

Sha ti agwa| de ya gya ton wen jo ni| na gon

ge ni yen da at ge| de ya ge ni yagh She| Tha yen da ne gen|

tho ga at| aghes gwe ni| O ya| a on Sa ya ga on ni|

da on dagh Stha we| Ethō ni yo ri wa ge| Ne o

jwa ak ya ton| David Hill

Karonghyontye|

ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES PUBLIC ARCHIVES CANADA

Quebec 6th Novr 1784

Recd 4th Jany 85

57 Translation of a letter, in Moha

Vol 4. '*Claus Papers*'

—— " ——

Quebec, November 6th 1784.

Brother-in-law,

I called here at Governor Haldimand's I came from Fort Stanwix while the meeting was yet in progress there. The Congress had spoken once. They first thanked then saluted us and said: "We are assembled to make amends, the evil came between us, we must remove it away. And, further, to tell you what has transpired, that I and the King are again at peace, and according to our agreement the boundaries of our lands are marked". Now we knew all this for you had told us the same. He further told, that we Indians were not included in the making of peace between the King and the Bostonians. Then he further said: "You deliver up the Negro slaves and all other captives taken during the war, from this act of yours will come the possibility of peace being restored. Also for you to mark the boundaries of our respective lands. Consider this well, so that your decisions will find acceptance on our part-the both of us. We are miserably in debt over the late war. We have said to our soldiers: 'We will pay you in land'. Now they say to us: 'Pay us'. This will do for the present". he said. "There is little yet remaining".

One Montreal man (Frenchman) then spoke, he said: "My children, do not flag in your efforts for peace, in my hearing.

②

We are verily all united, the Bostonians, the Spaniards and the Hollanders. It would be well for you, Indians, to be in that union. When they fought at Ka nada se ge' (Geneva) we had a meeting and there I told you not to have anything to do with it: you people of the Long House. You do not know the cause but I know that it is not the fault of the Bostonians, it is the fault of the King. I told you this", he said. "Now in spite of that you went into the war. Now, what has happened to you? You are not included in our peace-making. That is all. I shall now leave."

Forthwith we made reply. "Father, ~~no~~ now you have finished. Thanks for all you thought you would say. We all know what you have said. We have done all that. We have not forgotten that we went into the war purposely. The reason we were into it is because we want to be faithful to the ancient covenant of friendships we made with the King, for all time. When you were fighting our King years ago, we were into it. What you have done in siding with them now is not right; for you were never their friend. But what we did we did it conscientiously."

This is all, brother-in-law, just

a few main points, for there were many matters left not replied to when I left. I send my thanks to you and to Sir John Johnson, and tell him all these things. Do not be troubled. It seems plain the Bostonian is not very strong in his words.

Brother-in-law, I want you to bring back with you the picture of my late brother, John Hill. The paper tells that 'Tha'yen da'ne gen' (Cap' Jos. Brant.) has already paid for it. The picture of 'Ga rah-gwa dir on' and I, Governor Haldimand took it with him. We two really want to have one, Tha yen da ne gen' and I. if you could get another one made and bring along with you, we will be glad.

This is all

Capt. David Hill
(Ka rongh yoi tye)

Translation of a letter in Mohawk on page 57
Vol. 4, Claus Papers.

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This is all

Cap^t. David Hill

(Ka rongh yon tye)

The following Letter was wrote in the Iroquois or Mohawk Tongue by an Iroquois Chief who was present at 122 the Congress the Commissioners of the American States convened at Fort Stanwix last Autumn for settling a peace with those & other Ind.ⁿ Nations in the Northern District of North America. — To his Friend in Canada dated in Nov.ʳ 84. and may be depended upon as genuine

My Friend

The * Bostonians told us that they came to make up Matters & Differences with Us that happen'd in course of the late War and to bury every thing that was pass'd and bad into Oblivion. Then they gave Us the Substance of the peace made with the Great King of England, and the limits they first pointed out in the Ind.ⁿ Country which they said was settled by said Treaty, agreeing with what you informed us of before, and said that our King did not include Us in said Treaty as his Allies. — They proceeded then & said that if we meant to make a firm peace we must deliver up all Prisoners taken by Us during the Rebellion as well as Negroes & in short every thing we took from them since the War begun. — Then they proposed to

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* By Bostonians the Northern Indians distinguish the revolted Americans, because the Rebellion first begun at Boston. —

to our serious consideration to deliver up a certain Tract of Land wch they said they hoped would meet with mutual satisfaction; For said they we are sorry to tell you that we have not paid our Soldiers that fought for us during the War, and we put them off with giving them some Lands in Lieu of Payment And now they insist upon keeping our Promise —

These they said were the principle Articles they had to propose at that treaty —

Then a * Frenchman spoke and said ‡ Children I earnestly recommend to you the peace which now has been offered to you, for I can assure you that the French & Bostonians as well as the Spaniards & Hollanders are one Body & of one Mind, and it will be for all the Indians Interest to join that Alliance, for You will find my Advice as good and true as that I gave you at the Beginning of the War wch was for you Indns not to interfere in the Dispute between the Americans & their King as you were improper Judges & misinformed about the Matter, As the Bostonians were in the right and the King of England in the wrong — And still you persisted in your Error and acted for your King against the Americans, and now you are convinced of

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* This French man by Information of the Letter carrier was the Marqs de Fayette

‡ The french address the Indns as Children in their Speeches & Councills: —

of your Folly to your Hurt & Loss for your King forsook you & left you to the Mercy of the Americans. by the peace he made with them & leaves you now to extricate yourselves as well as you can. —

My Friend after this we went aside and immediately considered upon an Answer to the French Mans Speech before we considered upon the Bostonians. and told him we thank you Father for the fine Speech you thought proper to make us, we understand you what you mean, And do not disown of having acted for our King for we do not slight or forget old Engagements & Agreements which have been handed down to Us by our Ancestors, which they made & entered into with our antient Protectors & Friends the Great Kings of England; And we now tell you we allways joined them when at War against you the French for you always begun unjust Disputes; And now have joined these Bostonians against their King, who never were your Friends & hated the French mortally And we the Indians only begun to fight hearty when you espoused their unjust Cause.— These Father are our Sentiments with Regard to You For we Indians love what is just & honest.

This my Friend is all I can at present recollect the other points are not considered upon yet, when answered shall acquaint you therewith

I your Friend wrote this

Signed

Translation of
the Letter from Capt Pipe

Montreal 15th Novembr 1784 ½ 8 OClock at Night

Dear Sir John /

Mr Hamiltons not seting out this day affords me just time to tell You that David is this moment returned from Caughnawaga where he has seen the Chiefs of that Village who arrived Yesterday from the Council at Fort Stanwix — They informed him that the Marquiss De la Fayatte came to see them at the Oneida Village and after the usual salutations were over, He told them that they Acted wisely in listening to the French General who Advised them to behave like dutiful Children to the King of Great Britain after the surrender of this Province, but that now the time was fast approaching when their Old Friends wou'd again be amongst them — that it was now in his Power to be revenged of the English, and that he wou'd soon put the means in practice — He wou'd not point out any particular time to them, but they may be assured it wou'd be soon — He desired they wou'd sink what he had said deep in their Hearts, and prepare themselves Accordingly. — They also told David that the Council was finished and every thing settled, seemingly to the satisfaction of both parties — The Indians in that Council have sold to the Commissioners a Tract of Land begining at Tioga on the Old Line, to run seven Miles deep, and that depth to continue along the said Line untill it strikes the Ohio above Fort Pitt. — The Commissrs intend going along the new Line without loss of time & hold Councils with the different Nations as they proceed untill they strike the Mississippi, and Joseph is of opinion that they will make the same requisition at every Council, to make it One continued Tract to the end of the Line — After the business of the Council was over

Sir John Johnson Bart. &c.

the Commissioners addressed the Indians as follows

Children

“The Bonds of Peace is now closed between us, and we
“cannot part from You without first warning You as Friends that We think a bad
“Wind will soon blow from the North — if it should be directed towards You We
“promise You our assistance, and if it gives us trouble We expect You will
“lend Us Your hand to help us out of danger.”

Aaron, & the Brother of the Cayouga Chief who accompanyed David to Quebec, are detained as Hostages at Fort Stanwix untill all the Prisoners are delivered up, and a Company of Soldiers are gone to Genesee Village to receive them — Joseph is much disatisfied at this proceeding; as neither the Mohawks or Cayougas have any Prisoners among them, and he thinks that the Chiefs of those Nations that have any should remain —

Joseph has got a deed for the upper Mohawks, but none for them at the Bay de Quinte — adieu —

Yours with great Sincerity —

D Langan.

4082

Let fm Sr John Johnson
1st Feby 1767

TO JAMES MADISON.

TRENTON, Nov^r 7, 1784.

DEAR SIR,—I inclose you a cypher which will put some cover on our correspondence. We have yet only 5. States, & not a man from the Eastward except Mr. Holton, there is nothing new without doors, w^h I have not communicated to the Governor, & of those within I must defer writing to you, until the next post; the present is certainly an important crisis in our affairs, but as I shall write you very fully by the next post shall only add that I am with great respect, etc.

JA^s MONROE.

TO JAMES MADISON.

TRENTON, Nov. 15, 1784.

DEAR SIR,—You rec^d I hope by the last post a small cypher from me. At fort Stanwix you were necessarily acquainted with the variance which had taken place between the Indian Commissioners of the U. States & those of New York as well as of the principles upon which they respectively acted & the extent to which they carried them. As I reach^d N. York about eight days after you had left it & the Ind. Comm^{rs} were then on the ground & have not since made a stat'ment of their final transactions there, I have nothing new to give you upon that head. The questions w^h appear to me to arise upon the subjects of variance are 1. Whether these Indians are to be considered as members of the State of N. York, or whether the living simply within the bounds of a State, in the exclusion only of an European power, while they acknowledge no obedience to its laws but hold a country over which they do not extend, nor enjoy the protection nor any of the rights of citizenship within it, is a situation w^h will even in the most qualified sense, admit their being held as members of a State? 2. Whether on the other hand this is not a description of those whose management is committed by the confederation to the U. S. in Congress assembled? In either event the land held by these Indians having never been ceded either by N. York or Massachusetts belongs not to the U. States; the only point then in w^h N. York can be reprehensible is, for preceding, by a particular, the general Treaty. This must be attributed to a suspicion that there exists in Congress a design to injure her. The transaction will necessarily come before us, but will it not be most expedient in the present state of our affairs to form no decision there on? I know no advantages to be deriv'd from one. If the general treaty hath been obstructed the injury sustain'd in that instance is now without remedy. A decision either way, will neither restore the time we have lost nor remove the impressions w^h this variance has made with the Indians & in the Court of G. Britain respecting us. If the right of Congress hath been contraven'd shall we not derive greater injury by urging it to the reprehension of New York who holds herself aggriev'd in other respects than by suffering our sense of that delinquency to lay dormant? Our purchases must be made without her bounds & those Indians whose alliance we seek inhabit a country to which she hath no claim.

M^r Marbois is dissatisfied with the decision of the Court of Pennsylvania in a particular affair. His own conduct in the management of that business previous to the decision, obtain'd the entire approbation of the King of France, as he is assur'd in a letter from the Minister of Marine, and certainly he conducted it in as high a tone as the Minister, the most jealous of the honor of the King of France co^d have done. Since that period he hath not rec^d y^e orders of his court & in the interval hath some difficulty how to act. If Congress go to Philad^a he says he will be precluded from a personal attendance or communication there. I have considered this matter more attentively since I saw you & think that in whatever character we hold the man we cannot surrender him to the Court of France even if Pennsylvania wo^d accede to whatever we desir'd. That all they have a right to expect is that he be punish'd agreeably to the laws of Pennsyl^a & that if they are not adequate, others be made for preventing the like in future, w^h might be effected by a recommendation from Congress. The variance w^h took place between the members of the Committee of the States wh^h terminated in their abrupt dissolution, by a secession on the part of some members, is also an affair which may come before us[1]; but had we not also better keep this affair out of sight & while we lament they could not in that instance be calm & temperate, prevail on them if possible to be so in future? But the more interesting object is the variance between us & G. Britain. Indeed the former derive their consequence principally from the weight they may have in forming her conduct with respect to us. If they are hostilely dispos'd these circumstances will tend to give them confidence. My letter to Gov^{r} Harrison gave you what had taken place in Canada. I am strongly impress'd with the hostile disposition of the Court towards us, not only what I saw, but the information of all the American gentlemen lately from G. B. confirm it, & particularly one of Maryland one of Pennsylv'a & Mr. Laurens who is now with us. The former two have lately return'd to the continent. We are certainly in no condition for war &, while we preserve the honor & dignity of the U. States must earnestly endeavor to prevent it. If they will comply with the conditions of the late Treaty, as we must on our part do, whatever it injoins, our situation is as happy as we co^{d} expect it. The sooner we are ascertain'd upon this point the better it will be for us, we must suppose they will comply with the Treaty & surrender the western Posts & it is therefore our business to make provision for taking possession of them in the Spring. The Minister whom we may order to that Court to obtain an answer upon this head & cultivate its good wishes toward us, will we trust inform us by Spring that the West'^{n} Posts will be given up & the troops whom we may raise for that purpose will of course be applied to the garrisoning of them. Many of the West'n posts I have seen & think 1200 the smallest number we sho^{d} think of. But yet we have no Congress nor is the prospect better than when I wrote you last. All my associates are here except Grayson. I beg of you to write me weekly & give me your opinion upon these & every other subject which you think worthy of attention. A motion will certainly be made as soon as we have a Congress for its removal hence. To w^{h} shall we give the preference, N. York or Philad'^{a}? We know not whom we shall have for Presid'^{t} of Congress; the delegates of S. Carolina think of M^{r} Laurens but if I may venture a conjecture from what I have observ'd, with respect to M^{r} Laurens' intentions I sho^{d} suppose his object was to attain the Appointm'^{t} to the Court of G. Britain. The rule heretofore adopted in the election of President will I think be deviated from. If this sho'd be the case it is not improbable Rich'^{d} H. Lee may be elected. I have heretofore address'd my letters to Mr. Jones to Richmond but fear from the accounts I have of his health he hath not left home. Is this the case? I am, etc.

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[1] The Committee of States, appointed May 29th 1784, "to sit in the recess of Congress, for transacting the business of the United States," had adjourned August 19th for want of a quorum, after an altercation between the members, which resulted in the withdrawal of Messrs. Blanchard of New Hampshire, Dana of Massachusetts, and Dick of New Jersey, who left Annapolis, and returned to their respective States.

JA^{s} MONROE.

TO JAMES MADISON.

TRENTON, Dec. 6, 1784.

DEAR SIR,—I inclose you a paper w'^{h} will give you a state of the representation of the States, beside w'^{h} little else hath taken place worthy y'^{r} attention. M^{r} Jay is here & will, I understand, accept the office of foreign Aff^{rs} upon condition Congress will establish themselves at any one place. The conduct of Sp^{n} re-

COMMISSIONERS FOR TREATING WITH THE INDIANS, 1784.

Sunbury, November 15th, 1784.

Sir,

We have the honor to inform you that after enduring very great fatigue we have happily effected our negociations with the six confederated Tribes of Indians. The consideration agreed on by us to be paid them for the Land purchased, with such other particulars as you would wish to have communicated, Col. Johnston will lay before you.

In regard to the Tiadaughton Creek on the West Branch of Susquehanna mentioned in the Deed of 1768. We beg leave to inform you that the six nations publicly declared Pine creek to be the same as will appear by the inclosed paper. We are now in Company with the Continental Commissioners and mean to proceed with all the dispatch, the approaching season will admit to Cayahauga, the place fixed on by them for holding a Treaty with the Western Indians, where we trust we shall be as successful as at the former.

We have the honor to be,
Your Excellency's most obed.
and very humble Servants,
SAM. J. ATLEE,
WM. MACLAY,
FRA. JOHNSTON.*

Directed,

(Public service.)
His Excellency, John Dickinson, Esqr., President in Council.

ANSWER OF THE SIX NATIONS TO COMMISSIONERS, 1784.

Brothers from Pennsylvania.

We have heard what you have said and are well pleased with the same. The Consideration we have fully agreed on which we are to receive for the Lands, and agreeable to your request have appointed Capt. Aaron Hill, Oneguenandahonjo and Koneghariko of the Mohawk Tribe, Kayenthoghke, Thaghneghtanhare & Teyagonendageghti of the Seneca, Ohendarighton, & Thoneiyode of the Cayuga, Sagoyakalongo & Otoghselonegh, Ojistalale, Oneyanha, Gaghsaweda, & Odaghseghte of the Oenida, & Onasaghweughte & Thalondawagon of the Tuscarora, as suitable persons to receive the Goods from you.

With regard to the Creek called Teadaghton mentioned in your

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* Col. Rec., Vol. XIV., p. 261.—See also Archives, Vol. IV., p. 309 (note.)

We have ordered them to be printed immediately; and shall be very glad if any Measures we can take can contribute to the sense of your exertions for the advancement of "Justice," & the Relief of the "concerned."

I am with great esteem
Sir, your ob. &
very hble. Servt.,
JOHN DICKINSON.

Indorsed,

1784, December 1st. To Paul Phipps, Esquire, at Kingston, Jamaica.

SAM'L J. ATLEE TO PRES. DICKINSON, 1784.

Pequea, Lancaster County, Nov. 18th, 1784.

Sir,

I take the first opportunity to inform Council of my arrival last evening, at my own House, to take a few days rest and refreshment after the most fateaguing piece of Business I ever undertook.

I have the great pleasure of reporting that, that part of our mission that respected the Northern Tribes has been concluded to our utmost wish, and I trust will be fully satisfactory to the State. The Consequences we must leave.

Col. Johnston has beged a few days to see his Family, when we shall sett off upon the remaining part of our Task, which I fear will be much more disagreeable than the former, by reason of the advanced Season of year, I mean our Western Duty. We hope, however shou'd we return safe to be able to report upon that Business with equal Satisfaction to ourselves and Constituents.

The Deed from the Six Nations for its greater security we thought proper Col. Johnston should take with him, but upon second consideration I thought best to have it with us, and have apprized him thereof. Shou'd Councill be desirous of seeing it, he will have the pleasure of laying it before them for their purusal.

Untill my Arrival I heard little of the Contests subsisting respecting the late Elections, particularly of this County. My unfortunate absence upon public Business in October last prevented my declaring against an Election of Committees for this County, which had I been present I think I should have done judging myself fully intitled to a seat in the Executive for three years from the preceeding Election; this I think I have full Authority for, from the 19th Section of the Frame of Government, which says, "for the present, (that is the year 1777,) the Supreme Executive Councill shall consist of twelve persons chosen in the following manner, &c., and ever after the first choice in 1777, the successive Councellers shall be chosen for three years and no longer.

By this Clause, I think myself intitled for two years longer to a Seat in the Councill. Nothing but the important publick Duty assigned me, would prevent my Attendance and demanding my seat, but trusting in the Wisdom and impartial Justice of Councill and determining shortly to Proceed to the Westward must defer it, untill our return to make our final report.

Granting a right of Election for a Councellor the last October, (which I by no means do,) I think my pretentions strengthened (if possible,) by a great majority of my Constituents having declared for me which I trust will be found if the matter shall be thought worthy of cool and full investigation.

The Election of the District of Paxton returning about Eight hundred Votes, I understand has been held without the Judges, &c., being legally quallifyed, and that not more than one hundred and fifty or at most two hundred Voters present.

Complaints are likewise made against the Exorbitant members returned from the District of Lebanon, the Disproportion of the Voters present being nearly similar to that of Paxton.

Meer matter of Right and not of Choice has induced me thus fully to write to your Excellency and Council, for be assured, Sir, I find more real enjoyment and Satisfaction in one weeks residence with my Family and Friends,,than I have experienced in all the nine or ten years Attendance upon the Duties of the Publick.

I have the Honor to be,
Sir, your Excellency's
and the Council's most
obedient and most hble. Servt.
SAM'L J. ATLEE.

Directed,
His Excellency, John Dickinson, Esq., President.

PRES. DICKINSON TO GEN'L JOHN ARMSTRONG, 1784.

In Council, November 27th, 1784.

Sir,

We should be glad that you would return to Philadelphia as soon as will be convenient, in order that upon the fullest Information we may take such ulterior Measures as the situation of the affairs in North^{d} may render proper.

JOHN DICKINSON.

Directed,
Gen'l John Armstrong.

To all to whom these Presents shall come or may Concern We Peter alias Onieyanke; Cornelius, alias, Otatshete William Thaghtaghqwisere Cornelius alias Agwenyotta Ludwick alias Kaghsaweta, Jacob Reed alias, Nikaronta, Tedy alias, Orawanotsiron,

Native Indians and Chiefs of the Onidia Nation, and Proprietors of the Tract of Land hereinafter described, send Greeting Know ye that for and in Consideration of Seven Hundred and Six Pounds Current Money of the State of New York to us in hand paid well and truly by John Harper and Associates, We the said Native Indians have Granted Bargined Sold and Released, and by these Presents do Grant Bargin Sell and Release unto the said John Harper and his Associates all that Tract or parcel of Land Situated lying and being in the County of Montgomery late County of Tryon Butted and Bounded as follows viz Begining at the Mouth of the Tunadila River where the said River emptys into the Susquehanah River and run-

NM-5247

distance from the said Susquehanah River according to its General course untill it strikes the line of property thence along said Line untill it comes to the place of its first begining the Lines Six Miles Distance from each other exclusive of the width of the River including all the Islands in the said River as far as the Boundary Lines of the said Oneida Lands ~~together with the said Lands~~ supposed to be One Hundred Thousand Acres more or Less, together with the Hereditaments and Appurtenances to the same be=longing or appertaining, and all the Estate, Right Title Interest Property Possesion Benefit Claim and Demand either in Law or Equity of each and every of us of in or to the same To have and to Hold the Premisses hereby granted Bargined Sold and Released as aforesaid with the Hereditaments and Appurtenances thereunto belonging unto the said John Harper and his Associates their Heirs and Successors, to and for their own proper use and Behoof forever. In Witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands and Seals at Oneida in the said County of Montgomery the the twenty Day of November in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty four and in the Ninth year of the Independance of the United States of America

Signed Sealed and Deli- Peter Oneyanha his + mark

Recorder of Deeds in the county of Washington, in consequence of an appointment to those offices by the General Assembly.

Frederick Limback, Esquire, was appointed and commissioned to be a Justice of the County Court of Common Pleas in and for the county of Northampton.

The Council met.

PHILADELPHIA, Saturday, November 20th, 1784.

PRESENT:

His Excellency JOHN DICKINSON, Esquire, President.

The Honorable JAMES IRVINE, Esquire, Vice President.

John McDowell,
Jonathan Hoge,
Stephen Balliot,
Isaac Meason,
Richard McAlister,
Charles Biddle, and
John Woods,
Esquires.

The following orders were drawn upon the Treasurer, vizt:

In favor of Michael Beaver, for thirty pounds two shillings and three pence, State money, and in favor of George Bloss, for the sum of forty-six pounds eight shillings and five pence, like money, in full for principal and interest due upon their several certificates for horses furnished for public use.

In favor of Paul Knows, for the sum of two pounds fifteen shillings, State money, in full of his certificate for provisions furnished as aforesaid, the said orders to be paid according to resolution of Assembly dated the eighth day of April, 1782.

In favor of Francis Bailey, for three hundred and sixty pounds ten shillings and eleven pence half penny specie, in full of his account for printing the public accounts until the twenty-third day of October, 1784, according to the Comptroller General's report.

In favor of William Mackey, for fifty pounds specie, to be deducted from his certificate for the depreciation of his pay, according to the Comptroller General's report, and the resolution of Assembly dated the   day of September, 1784.

A resolution of the General Assembly of the 16th instant, appointing Joseph Reed, Cadwallader Morris, William Montgomery, Joseph Gardner, and William Henry, Esquires, to represent this State in the Congress of the United States for the ensuing year, was read; and

Ordered, To be filed.

A letter from the Commissioners on Indian Affairs, informing Council that they have compleated their negotiations with the Six Nations, and are on their way to Guyahaugo, to meet the Western

Indians, and inclosing the answer of the Six Nations to the Commissioners' speech of the twenty-third day of October, 1784, was read.

George Baird, Esquire, was appointed and commissioned to be a Justice of the County Court of Common Pleas, in and for the county of Westmoreland.

The Council met.

PHILADELPHIA, Monday, November 22d, 1784.

PRESENT:

His Excellency JOHN DICKINSON, Esquire, President.
The Honorable JAMES IRVINE, Esquire, Vice President.

John McDowell, Jonathan Hoge,
Charles Biddle, Isaac Meason,
Stephen Balliot, John Neville, and
Richard McAlister, Daniel Hiester,
Esquires.

The Comptroller General's reports upon the accounts of Jacob Essig, Baltzer Steally, Abraham Shellhamer and George Blossir, for provisions furnished for public use, being the ballances of their respective certificates, were read and approved.

A letter was written to the Honorable the Congress of the United States, inclosing a copy of the sentence against Charles Julian de Longchamps for an infraction of the law of Nations, and an assault and battery upon the Barbe de Marbois.

Also, a letter to the delegates of Pennsylvania upon the same subject, in which was inclosed the letter to Congress.

The Council met.

PHILADELPHIA, Tuesday, November 23rd, 1784.

PRESENT:

His Excellency JOHN DICKINSON, Esquire, President.
The Honorable JAMES IRVINE, Esquire, Vice President.

John McDowell, Richard McCalister,
Charles Biddle, Isaac Meason,
Stephen Balliot, John Neville,
Jonathan Hoge, John Woods, and
George Wall, Jun'r, Daniel Hiester,
Esquires.

Upon the petition of George Davis and William Connor, convicted of horse stealing in the county of Philadelphia, it was

Sir,

Carlisle November 20th 1784

We had the honor of writing to your Excellency on the 26. Ulto. and of transmitting the treaty we concluded with the Six Nations

Unforseen difficulties and delays in our paſsage down the Susquehannah have prevented our proceeding farther than this place in our way to Cayahoga. From Sunbury we dispatched a Meſsenger to Fort Pitt; directing Provisions to be sent on for the support of the Indians, and we propose to proceed thither ourselves with all expedition.

Lieutenant Mercer will have the honor of delivering this to your Excellency — We had no other way of rescuing him from the insolence of those who were pursuing him in the State of New York, but by bringing him with us. He conducted himself with most unexceptionable propriety towards the Sutlers in executing the orders of the Commiſsioners, so that if there should be any blame in the buſineſs, it ought to fall upon us. Indeed nothing but the indiſpensible neceſsity of abandoning the treaty, or suppreſsing the sale of Spiritous Liquors, would have engaged us in a measure so disagreeable and hazardous, as that of opposing Civil proceſs; but upon the maturest consideration we are persuaded that the Proceſs was contrary to the intention and spirit of the confederation, and that treaties cannot be negotiated with the Indians, if the Commiſsioners or their Officers are liable to such proceſs during the negotiation

Mr Mercer will, if neceſsary, give a very particular statement of what was done in the seizure of Liquors at Fort Stanwix — and we beg leave to recommend him, not only to the protection, but to the favor of Congreſs.

Agreeable to the resolution of Congreſs, We gave all neceſsary protection and assistance to the Commissioners for Pensylvania, in purchasing from the Savages, the Lands within its limits. In the purchase they made, the Western boundary of the State of Pensylvania, is said to cross the Ohio near Shingoes's Old town, at the mouth of Beaver Creek. As we had no instructions, relative to what should be al[illegible] as the limits of that State, and did [illegible] out that this might be right, we did not draw it into question

We have the honor to be Sir,
(with sentiments of respect
Your Excellency's
most Obed.t & hble S.ts

Richard Butler
Arthur Lee

His Excellency
the President of Congress

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His Excellency
Thomas Mifflin. Esqr.
President of Congress
Trenton

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Letter Novr 20 1784
R. Butler
A Lee }
Read 10 Decr

An Instruction which Mr Peter Schuyler
gave
to Mr Campbell Secretary to the Commissioners,
which Mr Schuyler said he recd from the
Govr of the State of N York, - and which
he gave Mr Campbell in consequence of his
having delivered him a Letter from the
Commissioners ~~a~~ expostulating with him
for appearing at the Treaty with an
Interpreter and giving Liquor to the
Indians said he was a Commissioner and
by various direct and indirect means
counteracting the Negociation which
they were holding with the Indians -
the Instruction which Mr Schuyler
produced without any Seal or Signature
was, that the said Peter Schuyler together
with ~~one~~ Peter Ryckman as an Interpre-
ter was directed to attend at Fort Stanwix
during the Time the Commissioners of
the U S should hold their Treaty with
the Indians, to observe the conduct
of the Commissioners of the United
States and to oppose and frustrate
any of their Proceedings which ~~be~~
might ~~which might~~ eventually affect
the Interest of the State of N York.

The following is an Instruction which Mr Peter Schuyler gave to Mr Campbell Secretary to the Commissioners of the United States appointed to negotiate with the Indians, upon Mr Campbell, having delivered to Mr Schuyler a Letter from the Commissioners in which they Observed to Mr Schuyler the Impropriety and Offensive Nature of his conduct in appearing at the Treaty of Fort Stanwix with an Interpreter and giving Liquors to the Indians as if he was a Commissioner and by Various direct and indirect means counteracting the Negotiation which they were holding with the Indians — which Instruction had neither Seal nor Signature to it and was taken from a Paper containing Other Directions to Mr Schuyler, and which Instruction Mr Schuyler declared that he recieved from the Governor of the State of New york — Viz — copy of the said Instruction which Mr Schuyler delivered to Mr Campbell — to wit —

"The said Peter Schuyler together with Peter Ryckman as an Interpreter is directed to attend at Fort Stanwix during the Time the Commissioners of the United States

Shole hold theer Treaty with the Ind.ns to Obſerve ~~their~~ the Conduct of the Commiſsioners of the United States and to Oppose and Fruſtrate any of their Proceedings, which might eventually Effect the Intereſt of the State of New york.;

The foregoing Inſtruction being delivered to the Commiſsioners by Mr Campbell, without any written Atteſtation of it by Mr Schuyler, Mr Campbell was deſired the day after it, being delivered to go to Mr Schuyler and Deſire him to Atteſt the Copy as an Inſtruction which he had received from the Governor of the State of New york, Mr Campbell in Obedience to this Order went to Mr Schuyler and upon his return to the Commiſsioners reported to them, that he had ~~delivered the~~ ~~said Copy into the Hands of~~ ~~Mr~~ seen Mr Schuyler and informed him that it was the wiſh of the Commiſsioners that he would Authenticate the Copy as an Inſtruction which he had received from the Governor of the State of New york, and that he put the Copy into Mr Schuyler's Hands for the Purpose which he mentioned — And that Mr Schuyler so soon as he got the Copy into his Hands tore it into Peices —

Novr 23d 1784

Certified by

An Instruction of the Commissioners
for Indian Affairs given at Fort Stanwix
Oct. 26. 1784 &c &c

The Commissioners for Indian Affairs
in the Northern and middle Department
Notwithstanding their most positive
Demand (and the Indian Tribes delinquent
in returning ~~[illegible]~~
the ~~Prisoners~~ Citizens of the U States, now Prison-
ers in their Villages and having
happily concluded a Treaty of Peace
between the U States and the late hostile
Tribes of the six Nations and taken
Hostages for the immediate Delivery of
the said Prisoners, the Performance of
which in their opinion cannot be
compleated without the assistance of Troops
to receive protect and lead them home
or to a place of safety, think themselves
fully Authorized to take the most
effectual Measures for the completion
of so humane and necessary a part of
our Duty

Therefore resolved that Capt. Lane
with the Detacht. of continental Troops
under his command remain at this Post
untill the Prisoners still among the late
hostile Tribes of the six Nations be
delivered up -- that he send the goods
[illegible] stand in
need, with a sufficient [illegible]ty of Provisions

for their support and Comfort and that they be recommended to his Care and Tenderness while on their way, that on their Arrival at the Post they be delivered to such of their Friends as may come for them and ~~that~~ he give Passports and sufficiency of Provisions to those and all such as he may think sincere in their wishes to Return ~~[illegible]~~ to their own homes — that all such as are not applied for and are not able and may not know the way ~~home~~ to their homes be sent with the greatest ~~[illegible]~~ care to West Point, and direct their Names Descriptions and if known their Place of abode to be published in the different Papers —

The said Peter Schuyler together with Peter Rightman as an Interpreter, is direct to attend at Fort Stanwix during the Time the Commissioners of the United States shall hold their Treaty with the Indians — to observe the Conduct of the Commissioners of the Unite States, and to oppose and frustrate any of their Proceedings, which might eventually Effect the Interest of the State of New York

Minutes-
de Indians

17
Subscriptions &c
Which is not
always prevalent &c

THE CONNECTICUT
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

From Albany to		93
		16 m
Schenectaday	16 1/2	109
To Maybee	6 1/2	
To Groffes	6	
To Cline;	6 1/2	
To Veder,	8	
To ~~Frunday~~	7,	
To Maybee	7	
To Fort Plain	6	
To Tygart;	12	
To Fort Harkemar	8	
To Thompsons	10	
To old Fort Schyler	9	
To White,	6	
To Oreskee	4	
To Fort Stanwix	2	
	110, 1/2	

IV 142

Mount Vernon November the 25th 1784

Dear Sir

Altho I Hope in a few days Having the pleasure to see You, I must beg leave to Mention a Matter which Has not a little Hurt my feelings—You probably Have Heard on my passing through Newyork, and particularly in my Visit to Albany, it was intimated my presence at the Indian treaty could be of some use to the public—at fort schuyler, I was desired to speak to the Indians, which I did and the Commissioners Had the papers filed up with their other transactions—Two Copies were taken, which I thought then a Matter of No Consequence—the inclosed letter from Mr St John, and the Gazette that Accompanied it will show You that from the Most obliging and Harmless Motives in the World, He imagined to attempt to translate and print, what inaccurate part of the Relation He Had been able to come at—Had this kind intention only given Him an instance to Reflect He Might Have seen the impropriety of the Measure, But in the Mean While it looks as if it Had my Consent—as [illegible] decision it is from the Manner in Which we servants of the united states conduct Business, that out of Respect for Congress, for the Commissioners, and Myself I could not Rest easy untill the Matter is fully explained—inclosed is my letter to the french Consul, which after You Have taken out such extracts as You think proper, I beg You will seal up and send by the Post—indeed, My dear Sir, Upon Your friendship I depend to Have this little Circumstance officially laid Before Congress, and should their letter be worth their Reading it will be I Hope, a satisfactory explanation of the Affair

In the first days of Next Month, I will Have the pleasure to meet You at

Trenton, and at that time will have the opportunity to converse with you on several subjects. No answer from you ever came to hand. My most affectionate respects wait upon Mrs Jay, and I hope need not assuring you of the tender regard I have the honour to be with

My dear Sir

Your obedient humble servant
and sincere friend
Lafayette

I write to Sr John in English, because, besides other obvious reasons, he makes use indifferently of both languages.

Letter 25 Nov 1784
f Marq. de la Fayette
to honble J. Jay.
Communicated to Congreſs
& read 8 Decr. 1784

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1784.

Congress assembled: Present, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pensylvania, Delaware, Virginia, South Carolina and Georgia; and from the State of New Hampshire, Mr. [Abiel] Foster; from Connecticut, Mr. [Joseph Platt] Cook, and from the State of North Carolina, Mr. [Hugh] Williamson.

Mr. Abiel Foster, delegate for the state of New Hampshire, and Mr. Joseph Platt Cook, for the State of Connecticut, produced the credentials of their several appointments, which were read.

The Sovereign and Independent State of

NEW HAMPSHIRE

To The Honorable Abiel Foster Esquire Greeting

We The said STATE, reposing special trust & confidence in Your wisdom, virtue and fidelity, do by these presents, constitute and appoint You the said Abiel Foster Esquire a Delegate to represent this STATE in CONGRESS for the term of one year from the date hereof agreeable to the rules and regulations established by Law. And We do hereby vest in You all the powers, authorities, rights and privileges appertaining or belonging to this Your appointment, You governing Yourself from time to time agreeable to such orders as shall be transmitted to you by authority of our GENERAL COURT.

Witness MESHECH WEARE Esquire, Our President and Commander in Chief in and over the said State, has given under his hand and the great Seal of the State, this first day of November Anno Domino One thousand seven hundred and Eighty four, and in the Ninth year of Our INDEPENDENCE.

M. WEARE.

By His Excellency's command,

JOSEPH PEARSON, *Dep: Secy* [SEAL.][1]

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[1] The original is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, New Hampshire, *Credentials of Delegates*. It was entered in No. 179, *Record of Credentials*, and not in the Journal.

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

At a General Assembly of the State of Connecticut in
[SEAL.] America holden at Hartford on the second Thursday of
May Anno Dom 1784

This Day being appointed by Law for the choice of Delegates to represent the State of Connecticut at the Congress of the United States of America,

PROCLAMATION was made in manner accustomed, And then the Votes of the Freemen were given in to the persons appointed by the Assembly to receive Sort and Count them and declare the Names of the Persons legally Chosen to the Office aforementioned, which Persons so appointed are Oliver Elsworth Esq^r^, Col^o^ Jonathan Wells, Col^o^ Edward Russell, M^r^ Benjamin Coit, Maj^r^ Ezra Starr, Cap^t^ Jeremiah Ripley and Col^o^ John Sedgwick, who were all sworn to a faithfull discharge of that Trust. AND THE VOTES of the Freemen being bro^t^ in sorted and Counted—

William Pitkin Esq^r^
Jedidiah Strong Esq^r^
John Treadwell Esq^r^
Joseph Platt Cook Esq^r^
James Wadsworth Esq^r^
William Williams Esq^r^
Charles Church Chandler Esq^r^, Are Elected

and were publickly declared to be Delegates to represent the State of Connecticut in the Congress of the United States of America according to Law.

A true Copy of Record

Examin^d^

By GEORGE WYLLYS *Secret^y^* [1]

On motion of Mr. [David] Howell, seconded by Mr. [Jacob] Read,

Resolved, That a standing committee of qualifications to consist of five members be appointed, to report, from time to time, on the credentials of members during this Congress.

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[1] The original is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, Connecticut *Credentials of Delegates*. It was entered in No. 179, *Record of Credentials*, and not in the Journal.

Mr. Egbert Benson, a delegate for the State of New York, attended, and produced the credentials of his appointment, which were read.

The People of the State of New York, by the Grace of God, Free and Independent: To all to whom these presents shall come, send Greeting: Know Ye that We having inspected the Records Remaining in the Secretary's Office of our said State do find there a certain Commission in the Words following to Wit, "The people of the "State of New York, By the Grace of God Free and Independent: To "all to whom these presents shall come send Greeting: Whereas our "Senate and Assembly have on the twenty sixth day of October in "this present year Nominated and Appointed the Honorable John "Jay, Egbert Benson, Walter Livingston, John Lansing Junior and "Zephaniah Platt Esquires Delegates to Represent our said State in "the United States of America in Congress Assembled for one year from "the first Monday in November next: Now therefore Know Ye that "in pursuance of the said Nomination and Appointment we have by "these presents Commissioned the said John Jay, Egbert Benson, "Walter Livingston, John Lansing Junior and Zephaniah Platt "Esquires, with full power and authority to them the said John Jay, "Egbert Benson, Walter Livingston, John Lansing Junior and "Zephaniah Platt to Represent our said State in the said Congress "accordingly: In Testimony whereof We have caused these our "Letters to be made patent and the Great Seal of our said State to "be hereunto affixed: Witness our Trusty and Wellbeloved George "Clinton Esquire Governor of our said State General and Commander "in chief of all the Militia and Admiral of the Navy of the same, at "our City of New York the fourth day of November in the year of "our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty four, and of our "Independence the Ninth": All which we have caused to be Exemplified by these presents, In testimony whereof We have caused these our Letters to be made patent and the Great Seal of our said State to be hereunto affixed: Witness our Trusty and Wellbeloved George Clinton Esquire Governor of our said State General and Commander in chief of all the Militia and Admiral of the Navy of the same at our City of New York, the said fourth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty four, and of our Independence the Ninth.

Geo Clinton
[with the Great Seal appendant]

Passed the Secretary's Office November 4th 1784
Robt Harpur *D Secry*[1]

A motion was made by Mr [Samuel] Hardy, That the Secretary cause to be provided from each of the States of Pennsylvania New Jersey and New York forty of each of their newspapers for the use of the members of Congress.

Ordered, That this be referred to the Secretary to take order.[2]

[Mr Monroe's motion respecting the N. W. Posts.]

Whereas it was stipulated in the 7th article of the treaty between the U. S. and His Britannick Majesty, that the troops of His Britannick Majesty should be withdrawn from the posts and fortifications within the U. S. "with all convenient speed" and whereas the posts of M. Detroit &c &c within the U. S. are still held by B. garrisons and the said troops have not been in compliance with said article, withdrawn from the posts and fortifications within the north western bounds of the U. S. whereby the U. S. have been prevented from taking possession of said posts and their citizens excluded from free passage and navigation of the Lakes, to their iminent disadvantage, therefore

Resolved, That the Com[missioners] for negotiating commercial treaties be instructed to ~~repair to the Court of London~~ represent to his Britannick Majesty the dissatisfaction of the U. S. at ~~said procedure~~ the delay of the Court of ~~London~~ G. B. in complying with the said article to require that ~~said posts and fortifications be surrendered as soon as possible~~ his troops be withdrawn from every post and place within the ~~bounds~~ territory of the U. S. agreeable to the 7th article of the treaty and to *insist that a precise time be appointed for said purpose.*

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[1] This commission was entered December 2, 1784, in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 179, *Record of Credentials*, and not in the Journal. Three of the original commissions are with the New York *Credentials of Delegates*, evidently the ones issued to Egbert Benson, who attended December 2; John Jay, December 6; and Walter Livingston, December 7, but the names are not indorsed on them.

[2] This motion is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, Letter Book A, No. 18, folio 46.

~~To assure his Britannick Majesty that it is the desire of the United States to live in amity with him, and that they will do everything necessary on their part to cultivate the most friendly intercourse between the citizens and subjects of either power.~~[1]

[Mr Jacob Read's motion]

That five Commissioners be forthwith appointed to survey and make an accurate plan of the lands lately ceded to the United States in Congress assembled by the States of New York and Virginia particularly that part purchased from the Indians by the Commissioners of United States in Congress Assembled, at the Treaty held on the 22d day of October 1784 at Fort Stanwix, in which said map the line of property already laid down, and all such as may be agreed on in any other treaty to be held with the Indian Nations inhabiting the Northwestern, Western or South Western frontiers of the United States shall be clearly and distinctly marked, between the United States and the Indian Villages and hunting grounds. That in such plan all the principal lakes, rivers, creeks, mountains, trading paths and carrying places with other remarkable natural marks shall be noted, more particularly those streams which form or are nearest to the forming a navigable communication between the respective waters of the rivers falling eastward into the Atlantic Ocean, and those leading westward into the Ohio and Missisipi.[2]

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[1] This motion, in the writing of James Monroe, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 30, folio 243. The indorsement states that it was made on this day and referred to Mr. [James] Monroe, Mr. [David] Howell, Mr. [Hugh] Williamson, Mr. [Egbert] Benson and Mr. [William] Houstoun.

[2] This motion, in the writing of Jacob Read, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 36, II, folio 455. The indorsement states that on this day it was referred to Mr. [David] Howell, Mr. [Hugh] Williamson, Mr. [Jacob] Read, Mr. [Samuel] Hardy and Mr. W[illiam] C[hurchill] Houston, and the committee discharged April 13, 1785. Committee Book, No. 186, states that the committee was renewed January 17, 1785.

Treaty with the Western Indians.

Decr. 3. 1784.

The Commissioners met at Pittsburg,
present George Rogers Clark
Richard Butler
Arthur Lee.

The place they had appointed for holding the treaty, was the Mouth of Cayahoga, on the 20th of November: but they were delayed by the treaty at Fort Stanwix.

On the 3d of December they received a speech from the Indian Chiefs assembled at Cayahoga. It was dated Novr. 20.

Decr. 4. They sent a speech to those Indians inviting them to remove to Fort McIntosh.

Decr. 28. The Commissioners met at Fort McIntosh.

Decr. 30. The Chiefs of the Ottawas & Chippaways made their congratulatory speech.

Decr. 31. The Big Cat and an old chief

of the Delaware nation, waited on the Commiſsioners, and said—"Their Head men directed them to tell the Commiſsioners to ſtop the bungs of all the kegs, & let no rum go out; for that it was their wiſh to keep ſober while buſineſs was doing."

Jany 18th 1785. the firſt council was held.

The Commiſsioners addreſsed the Indians.

"Sachems and Warriors of the Wiandot, Delaware, Ottawa & Chippewa nations!"

"We have called you together at this place, to make known to you the will & pleaſure of the United States, and we are happy to ſee you in health after your journey."

(A white ſtring)

"We now ſhow you this our commiſsion under the great ſeal of the United States, by which we are empowered to act at this treaty."

(A black & white ſtring)

"The war which the King of great Britain waged againſt us, & in which you aſsiſted him, is now terminated between the United States and him, by the treaty which we here exhibit to you, in which he has ceded to the UStates all the country ſouth & ſouthweſt of a line running thro' the middle of the lakes to the lake of the woods, & from thence to the head of the Miſsiſipi."

(The definitive treaty of peace was exhibited & explained)

"By this treaty which we now show to you, the King of France has renounced forever any claim to the country ceded to the UStates by the King of Great Britain."

(a black & white ſtring)

[See the 6th article of the treaty of alliance with France.]

"You have now before you the proofs that the UStates are the ſole Sovereigns within the limits that have been mentioned to you: that the King of Great Britain in his treaty with the UStates, has not ſtipulated any thing in favour of you & of the other Indian Nations who joined him in the war againſt us. You are therefore left to obtain peace from the UStates, & to be received under their government and protection, upon ſuch conditions as ſeem proper to Congreſs, the Great Council of the UStates."

"By their authority we have already

given peace to those of the Six Nations, who were joined with the King of Great Britain in the war againſt us, & allotted to them all, lands to live & to hunt on, within the limits and under the protection of the UStates."

"This is the treaty which records and testifies these transactions"

(The treaty with the Six Nations was recd & explained to them, & a white ſtring given.)

"Having now acquainted you with what has been transacted between the UStates and other nations, ſhowing that the UStates are at peace with all but you, and a few of the more Western tribes; we will at present leave these things to your consideration; and when you are ready we shall inform you of the pleasure of the Great Council, and of the terms on which they will give you peace, and receive you into their protection."

Jany 12. Council opened. The Half King of the Wiandots, & Colo. Henry Kilbuck (a friendly Indian) addreſsed the Commiſsioners in preliminary ſpeeches. He calls the Great Spirit "the Master of all."

Jany 13th In Council.

The Council Door, or Delaware chief ſpoke. Among other things he said "Brothers,

I am

glad to see & to hear what my uncles the Six Nations have done. I am glad that my uncles & you have settled peace & friendship; and that they have given up to you a part of their country."

"In the first place, Brothers, I will inform you that my uncle (the Six Nations) first spoke to me at Ottiga, from whence he removed the fire to Venango, where he kindled it again. At this place, and at this fire, he made me a present of the lands from Venango up French Creek to the Lake and to this place: which country, until this day, I always conceived to be mine."

"Brothers, I think as the old men in former times did. They were old, I am young: Nevertheless, I think as they thought."

"Brothers My uncle gave me Beaver Creek to the Lake, to hunt upon & support my women and children."

"Brothers, I only tell you now what my uncles the Six Nations did. My uncle (meaning the Half King of the Wyandot nation) who sits here, and who knows the truth of what I say, gave me the lands from Muskingum to Sandusky."

"Brothers, I am young; still I think that the grant was good and that this country is mine. And as our children grow up, we tell them that the country is ours; that our uncle gave it to us."

'The Half King of the Wyandots then rose and ſpoke thus.'

"Brothers

'The Great Spirit has permitted us to ſpeak together to-day. Attend to what my nephew (the Delawares) has said to you. Believe him; for he has ſpoke the truth. I gave him a tract of land beginning at the mouth above Tuscarawas, and running from thence up along the lakes, I set *him* down on *this land*. *The rest belongs to the Wyandots*."

"Brothers. You wish to know *our* line. We will inform you of it. It begins at the Little Miami, and runs from thence across to the Great Miami. Farther than this our line does not extend. The lands beyond it belong to the different nations."

'The Commiſsioners then desired the Ottawas & Chippawa nations who had not yet ſpoke, might declare their ſentiments; and that if they had any thing to propose, they might hear it. — Interpreters to those nations being wanting, the Half King, by their consent & direction, ſpoke thus for the Ottawas:

"Brothers. We are happy to ſee & to hear you. We have only to mention that our brother, the Wyandots, gave us permiſsion to hunt & to fiſh along the ſhores, from Point to Point, from Cuyahoga to Bald Eagle Creek. He gave it to us, because he knew we were fond of the fiſh and fowl which were to be had from the waters."

"This brothers is all that we have to say."

The Council Door then ſpoke for the Chippawas.

It amounted to this — that their grandfather the Delawares, and they, the Chippawas, aſsisted each other in council, as one people; and that whatever was ſaid by their Grandfathers, was also said by them. — He then presented the pipe (the grand calumet of peace) as a memento of their union.

Jan.y 15. 1785. In Council.

The Commiſſioners ſpoke to the Indians.

After reprimanding them for not bringing in the priſoners, they say —

“You next expreſs your gladneſs that the Six Nations your uncles have __given__ __us__ a part of __their__ country. But it is quite the contrary. We have given the hostile part of the Six Nations some of the country which we conquered from them. And we have ſecured their lands to those who were friendly. Our friends have experienced our good faith: our enemies have felt our bounty & forgiveneſs.” &c.

“You have been particular in describing to us the claim and title of each particular tribe, to the lands from Venango, towards the ſun-riſing, to the Miami towards the ſun-ſetting, and between the Ohio & the Lake Erie. The detail of these claims and title may appear to be of consequence among yourselves. But to us & to the buſineſs of the Council-Fire to which we have called you, they have no relation; __because__ we claim the country by conqueſt; and are to *give* not to re*receive*. It is of this that it behoves you to have a clear and diſtinct comprehenſion."

[In a ſubsequent paragraph they say]

"Two mighty armies of the K. of G. B. were obliged to ſurrender themselves priſoners; and he was compelled to yield up to us all the country deſcribed in the treaty. You were driven from your towns, and from the country now in queſtion. Had we been conquered, our lands would have been ſubject to the K. of G. B. & to you. By the ſame law, you being conquered, your lands muſt be at our disposal."

—"He [the K. of G. B.] has made his peace with us upon our own terms. You ſtand alone againſt our whole force: a force which if provoked to fall upon you, would fall like the mighty oak, that crushes the ſhrub beneath it."—

[The Commiſsioners then told them that they could expect nothing from the juſtice, tho' much from the *mercy* of the U States]—"forgiveneſs, "peace and protection!—cloaths, to cover & to comfort them, with lands to live and hunt on!"

(18)

Jany 19. 1785. In Council.

The Commissioners said –

" Sachems and Warriors,

Having already stated to you your situation with regard to the U.States, it remains for us to inform you on what terms peace will be granted to you. You will now listen to the articles which you are to sign."

[Here follow the 10 articles which constitute the treaty. Then the speech is renewed & concluded thus]

" Sachems & Warriors,

" In allotting you lands to live & hunt on, we have endeavoured to shew the United States as generous to you, as they have already been to your brothers and uncles the Six Nations: and while the game is plenty on the branches of the rivers running into the Ohio, we will allow you to hunt upon those branches: Provided you do no injury to any surveyor, settler, hunter, or any other white person whom you may meet on the said hunting ground."

" In answer to which the Council-Door the boundaries & conditions of the treaty being fully explained, spoke thus for the Delaware Nation?

"Brothers, We have attended to what you have said. We have already considered it, & find it to be good. We agree to the boundaries ~~to the boundaries~~ which you have proposed, & the conditions on which we are to have peace."

"The Wiandot nation informed the Commissioners that they would take the night for the purpose of considering what they had proposed to them; and that early in the morning they should have their voice."

Jany 20. In Council.

[Wingenund, a Delaware Chief Warrior spoke. Said he had but lately come; but had understood fully all that had been said before his arrival; adding "I heard your good talk yesterday, & thank you for it."]

[In another part of the speech he said—]

"Brothers, All that you have said to us is true. We know it from experience. Being deceived and cheated, we have fought against you. But peace has again returned; and we hope that it may continue."

[The Council Door, in a ſpeech to the Commiſsioners, said —]

"You as chief men have delivered fully your sentiments to us. We thank you for your good talks; and are well pleased with what you have declared to us. In future it shall be our endeavour to give each other mutual aſsistance."

[The Half King of the Wyandots then ſpoke, agreeing to furnish the hostages demanded, for the delivery of the priſoners. But said nothing about Lands.]

Jan.y 21. 1785. In Council.

— 'The treaties were produced, read, aſsented to, ſigned, witneſsed & exchanged.' —

'After which the Commiſsioners ſpoke thus:'

" Sachems and Warriors of the Wiandot, Delaware, Ottawa & Chippawa Nations,"

" In the name and by the authority of the UStates, we now take the hatchet out of your head, give you peace, and receive you into their protection".

(A belt to the Wyandot & Delaware nations, & one to the Ottawas & Chippawas)

"Brothers of the Wiandot & Delaware nations, we open the road between the U States & you, and make clear the path of trade between our people & yours."

(A road belt.)

"Brothers of the Ottawa & Chippawa nations,

'We open the road, & clear the path of trade between the people of the U States and you."

(A road belt.)

[The Commissioners then exhorted them to observe the treaty, & manifest their gratitude & friendship to the U States, to entitle them to their fatherly protection — closing the long exhortation with

A grand belt.]

[The Commissioners then desired them to take the hatchet out of the head of the friendly Indians; which ceremony was immediately performed.]

'The Chippawas & Ottawas requested to speak. The Half King speaking for them said:—

"Brothers.

We are glad to hear your good

ſpeeches. We thank you for them. We thank you for having taken pity on us. We hope that peace may laſt between us, and that our young ones and yours may live in friendship."

(A ſtring)

"The Council-Door, for the Ottawas, said:—

"Brothers, We are glad to hear your words, because they are good. We are glad to hear you and our brothers the Wiandots & Delawares ſpeak together on ſuch terms. We rejoice at the preſent peace; & hope for a continuance of it."

(A ſtring.)

"The Council Door, on the part of his nation, the Delawares, proceeded—

[The firſt paragraph reſpected those of his nation who had joined the U States — receiving them into firm friendſhip — then he said —]

"Brothers, Every thing which I have heard from you is good. It has ſunk into my heart, & is lodged there."

"Brothers hearken!

"At different times of the war, the hatchet was offered to me by the British. I three days refused it; but being deceived, was at length prevailed upon to take it up. The ſame hatchet I hold in my hand: but now I lay it down."

— now I bury it, that none of our children may in future know ſuch a thing ever was."

(A belt.)

The Half King of the Wiandot Nation said: —

"Brothers of the 13 U.States, liſten to what your brothers the Wiandots are about to say to you! — As I am the oldeſt, I ſpeak in the name of all the nations present: — I take the hatchet out of your heads, and bury it deep in the earth, that the waters may carry it away; and lodge it beneath the root of a mighty tree, ſo that it may never more be found, or taken up."

(a ſtring)

"We give thanks to our brothers of the 13 U.States, and are truly glad that peace is established between them and us."

[He then desired the Commiſsioners to tell their Warriors and Great Men what had now been done; and they (the Indians) would ſpread it thro' their nations, "that it may be ſtrong and laſting. For (says he) the Great Spirit who is now looking upon us, & who ſees all that we do, will punish those who deviate from it."

[He then desired honeſt traders — & moderate ones]

(a ſtring.)

[End of the Council.]

"The Messengers made the following return of the number of Indians present at the treaty:

Wiandots	82	
Senecas	28	
Delawares	257	
Ottawas	24	
Chippawas	32	
Munseys	51	
Shawanees	2	The Grenadier Squaw and her daughter.
	476	

"January 24. 1785.

"Ordered that the Contractor issue to the Indians four days provisions as usual for their journey."

[Indians first speech in Council, Decr 30. Treaty signed Jany 21st.]

Fort Pitt Jany 27th 1785.

[In a letter to the President of Congress, the Commissioners say —]

— "This treaty has compleated the extinguishment of all claims as far West as the great Miami, on the Ohio river, and the Miami, or Omie river which empties into the Lake Erie. Beyond that the Six Nations, & the tribes now treated with, have no claim." —

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1784.

Congress assembled: Present, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Pensylvania, Delaware, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia; and from the State of New Hampshire, Mr. [Abiel] Foster, from New York, Mr. [Egbert] Benson.

On the report of a committee, consisting of Mr. [James] Monroe, Mr. [William Churchill] Houston and Mr. [David] Howell, to whom was referred a commission of consul from his Majesty the King of Sweden, to Charles Hellstedt, dated the 22d of September, 1783, with an appointment to reside at Philadelphia,

Resolved, That the said commission be registered in the Secretary's office; and that thereupon acts of recognition in due form be immediately issued to the several states, in order that they may respectively furnish him with an exequatur or notification of his quality, that the same may be made known and published.[1]

On the report of a committee consisting of Mr. [Samuel] Holten, Mr. [William] Ellery, Mr. [Samuel] Hardy, Mr. [James] Monroe and Mr. [Hugh] Williamson, to whom were referred letters from the Commissioners for negotiating with the Indians,

The Committee to whom were referred the letter from M^r^ Wolcott, M^r^ Butler, and M^r^ Lee with their enclosures submit the following Report,

The Commissioners (here insert their title) having transmitted to Congress a Treaty which they have concluded with the Six Nations in the following words viz. * * * (here insert the treaty)

Resolved, That the United States in Congress assembled approve of this treaty and every part of the same.

Postponed.

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[1] This report, in the writing of James Monroe, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 19, III, folio 123. It was also entered in the manuscript Secret Journal, Foreign Affairs.

Resolved, That the Secy: in the war Office cause the Troops at Fort Stanwix to be marched immediately to ~~West Point~~ Fort Ranselaer.

Passed.

Resolved, That Congress are highly pleased with the readiness expressed by the Indians to receive a Missionary among them and being desirous to embrace every opportunity of diffusing the benign precepts of Christianity among those nations the ——— is hereby authorised to cause a church to be built in place of that which was destroyed during the war, and to engage Mr Saml Kirkland as a Missionary among the Indians.[1]

Postponed.

Resolved, That the Secretary in the War Office take order for the removal of the Troops from Fort Stanwix to Fort Ranselar and for the cantoning and supplying said troops in the neighbourhood of the said Fort.[2]

Resolved, That the Secretary in the War Office cause the troops at Fort Stanwix to be marched immediately to Westpoint.

According to order, Congress proceeded to the election of commissioners for the Board of Treasury, but no choice being made,

Ordered, That the election be postponed till Tuesday next.

On motion of Mr. [Samuel] Hardy, seconded by Mr. [George] Partridge,

Resolved, That Wednesday next be assigned for the election of a Secretary at War.

The Committee [Mr. James Monroe, Mr. David Howell, Mr. Hugh Williamson, Mr. Egbert Benson and Mr. William Houstoun] to whom was referred the motion of Mr [James] Monroe respecting the north-western posts of the U. S. beg leave to submit the following ~~resolution~~ report, viz:

Whereas it was stipulated in the 7th article of the treaty between his B. Majesty and the U. S. of A. that the Troops of his B. Majesty should be withdrawn from the posts and fortifications within the U. S. "with all convenient speed"; and whereas Michilamackinack, Detroit and other posts within the U S are still held by British garrisons, therefore

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[1] This report, in the writing of Hugh Williamson, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress,* No. 30, folio 239. Wolcott, Butler and Lee's letter is in No. 56, folios 133 and 137.

[2] The above motion undated is on folio 245. A speech of the Oneidas, Fort Stanwix, October 20, 1785, is on folios 309.

Resolved, That be instructed to represent to his Britanick Majesty the dissatisfaction of the U S at the delay of the Court of G. B. in complying with said article, and to require that his troops be withdrawn from every post and place within the territory of the U. S. and to assure His B. Majesty that it is the desire of the U. S. to live in amity with him and that they will do everything necessary on their part to cultivate the most friendly intercourse between the citizens and Subjects of either power.[1]

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1784.

Congress assembled: Present, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Virginia, North Carolina and Georgia; and from New Hampshire, Mr. [Abiel] Foster; from Connecticut, Mr. [Joseph Platt] Cook, and from South Carolina, Mr. [Charles] Pinckney.

Mr. [John] Jay, a delegate for the State of New York, attended, and took his seat, his credentials having been previously laid before Congress.

Mr. Rufus King, a delegate for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, produced the credentials of his appointment, which were read. Mr. Elbridge Gerry, another delegate for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, attended, and took his seat, his credentials having been previously laid before Congress.

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[1] This report, in the writing of James Monroe, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 30, folio 67. The indorsement states that it was delivered this day, read and debated, and "further consideration postponed until Tuesday next."

On this day, as the indorsement indicates, instructions to the delegates of Massachusetts, respecting value of gold and silver coin, was referred to the Grand Committee, and by the Grand Committee to a subcommittee, consisting of Mr. [Hugh] Williamson, Mr. [John] Henry and Mr. [James] McHenry. It is in No. 65, II, folio 255. Committee Book, No. 186, shows that the committee was renewed January 17, 1785.

Ordered, That the complaint against the said election be dismissed, and the commission to Joseph Miller be confirmed.

An order was drawn upon the Treasurer in favor of the Honorable John Woods, for the sum of twenty-nine pounds seven shillings and six pence specie, in full for his attendance in Council until the thirtieth of November, 1784, inclusively, and his mileage coming to Philadelphia.

The Council met.

PHILADELPHIA, Friday, December 3rd, 1784.

PRESENT:

His Excellency JOHN DICKINSON, Esquire, President.

The Honorable JAMES IRVINE, Esquire, Vice President.

John McDowell, Isaac Meason,
Charles Biddle, John Neville,
Stephen Balliot, John Woods, and
Jonathan Hoge, Daniel Hiester,
Esquires.

An order was drawn upon the Treasurer in favor of Peter Burkholder, for the sum of five pounds, State money, in full of his certificate for provisions furnished for public use, to be paid out of the fund appropriated by resolution of the General Assembly dated the eighth day of April, 1782.

Timothy Taylor and Joshua Anderson reported to Council the evidence taken by them concerning the disputed election of Justices for the district of Milford and Richard townships, in the county of Bucks, and the same being read and considered, it was

Ordered, That the complaint be dismissed, and that George Weickart, Esquire, be appointed and commissioned to be a Justice of the Peace for the said county of Bucks.

The Council met.

PHILADELPHIA, Saturday, December 4th, 1784.

PRESENT:

His Excellency JOHN DICKINSON, Esquire, President.

The Honorable JAMES IRVINE Esquire, Vice President.

John McDowell, Isaac Meason,
Charles Biddle, John Neville, and
Stephen Balliot, Daniel Heister,
Jonathan Hoge,
Esquires.

A letter from Charles Thomson, Esquire, informed that the United States, in Congress assembled, have elected his Excellency Richard Henry Lee, Esquire, to be their President for the ensuing year, was read and filed.

A draft of a message to the General Assembly was laid before Council, and the same being read and considered, was adopted, as follows, and presented by the Secretary, vizt:

A message from the President and the Supreme Executive Council to the General Assembly.

GENTLEMEN :—Having received authentic intelligence that a purchase has lately been made by our Commissioners from the Six Nations, of all the lands not before bought from them, within the limits of this State, and having reason to believe that the purchase will soon be compleated by a conveyance from the Western Indians of their right; our attention has been turned towards the execution of two laws depending upon such an equitable establishment of our boundaries, we mean an act entitled "An Act for the sale of certain lands therein mentioned," &ca., passed the twelfth day of March, 1783, and the act intitled "An Act for opening the Land office," &ca., passed the first day of April, 1784.

The principles of these laws we generally and highly approve, but as we think some alterations proper for producing all the beneficial effects intended by the Legislature, we earnestly wish your revision and amendment of them.

In considering these laws, objects of immense importance to the good people of Pennsylvania, and their posterity, are brought into view.

It appears, by a state of the public debts which we have received from the Comptroller General, and now inclosed, that there are upwards of two millions and a half of dollars due by the Commonwealth, and more than five millions and a half due to citizens and inhabitants of this State by the United States. By a judicious disposition of the lands directed to be sold for certificates, &ca., by the laws before mentioned, and to be paid down, very large portions of these incumbrances might be discharged, and the people of this Commonwealth be enabled to bear, without distress, the taxes that might then be necessarily required from them.

On the other hand, we think it our duty to observe, that by the best information we can obtain, and upon the fullest deliberation, we are all perfectly convinced that if a fund is first established by this State for payment of the interest of the said debts, or of either species of them in general, the sale of the lands, from which such great advantages have been expected, will afford but an inconsiderable relief to our constituents from their burthens.

On the former plan, the consideration for the lands would be immediately received by the Commonwealth, and the demands to that amount be at once extinguished. On the latter, or funding system, the lands would only sell for low prices, and if credit should then be given to the purchasers, their payments of principal or interest could never be relied upon as a supply. They would be slow, irregular, and perhaps not to be obtained but by compulsion. Multitudes of persons, in distant parts of the State, would be involved in the same circumstances; the cause would be common; might therefore, excite combinations and disturb the public peace.

Other mischiefs, and as great as the foregoing, will, in our opinion, attend the adoption of the funding system at present. A heavy load of taxation must instantly fall upon the freeholders and other inhabitants of this Republic. It would be some consolation if it was likely that they could see an end of it. But we judge it will pass to their descendants for ages, as an inheritance that in many instances will eat out any estates which they can leave to them.

As to the consequences of dealing in funds, they are well known. They are such as it is certain every wise State ought to make vigorous exertions for reducing them into as small a compass as is possible.

The generous and benevolent temper of Pennsylvanians might be more reconciled to these evils, if they could be persuaded that such extraordinary efforts must be made for relieving widows, orphans, and worthy citizens, whose situation in life was rendered uncomfortable by the application of their property to the use of their country, or for assisting the original holders of other certificates, or their legal representatives. But efforts of this extent are not requisite for the attainment of these ends. The Legislature has heretofore adverted to such respectable claims. We refer to the act intitled "An Act for providing the quota of Fœderal supplies, &ca.," passed the first day of March, 1783, and a supplement to it, passed the twenty-fifth day of September in that year, and to an act entitled "An Act to appropriate certain monies arising from the excise," &ca., passed the same day of March, and a supplement to it, passed the twentieth day of September, in the same year. It is an indisputable truth, that a very large number of certificates have been bought for a very trifling part of the sums mentioned in them, from those to whom they were issued. If these purchasers are to receive six per cent. interest upon the nominal sums contained in their certificates, they will frequently, and we believe generally, receive from forty to fifty per cent. interest annually, on the specie which they actually paid for them, besides the rise in the value of the principals; and persons who were obliged to take the certificates from the public instead of gold and silver, and afterwards to sell them because the public did not pay them, must bear their proportion of taxes for converting them into gold and silver, in the hands of such purchasers.

If the hardship of these cases is to be aggravated to the first owners, it will, by reflecting that the buyers of the certificates, in all probability, were led by general conversation on the subject, and by the tenor of our laws, to contemplate the laying them out in purchasing lands from the State, without any expectation of receiving an annual interest of six per cent. in specie for the sums specified in them. Thus, while some will be suddenly elevated to great wealth, others will be proportionally depressed, the rewards of industry being transferred by this fluctuation from the latter to the former.

There is another circumstance connected with this subject, and deserving notice. It is easy to foresee how the certificates will rise in value when they are funded. Very many freeholders in different parts of the State, and particularly at a distance from the city, who mean only to form moderate settlements for themselves and their children, have not yet taken out patents for their lands, tho' payments may be made in certificates. The presumption is that they have none.

The possessors of certificates will have all these and unquestionably many widows and orphans at their mercy, and may tax them at discretion. A dealer in land and certificates may have got a township cheaper than in such case one of these persons can get a small plantation.

When we pursue our enquiries respecting a general funding plan by this State in its relation to the Confederation, our concern increases.

Congress has been faithfully labouring since the conclusion of the war, to give efficacy and permanency to the arrangements of peace. Prudence and the true interest of America, must produce a just regard for the councils of that body. Without this regard, all the wisdom and virtue of these States will fail to make us a happy people.

We consider the plan we have spoke of as interfering with Fœderal measures, and tending to weaken the Union. A treaty has been held with the Indians, and a large territory ceded by them. The Commissioners have proceeded to another. The lands acquired will be disposed of, and other steps will be taken to support the National faith and honor. Let us hope that they will be supported; at least let us not declare to the world that they are desperate.

We cannot forbear to mention our apprehensions that such a plan will exceed the ability of the Commonwealth, and injure its credit; and that we shall be likely to involve ourselves in greater difficulties than our proportion of the common debt will occasion. The duties upon importations have been encouraging, but your Honorable House will truly weigh the variety of events that are combined with that delicate subject.

If Pennsylvania shall take up one load we think too heavy for her, and be able to bear it in time of profound tranquility, we should endeavour to anticipate her situation if that tranquility shall be interrupted.

We will only add upon this point, that by the act before mentioned, "for providing the quota of Fœderal supplies," &ca., a tax of six hundred dollars was laid, one half payable in the Treasurer's notes, to be issued to citizens of this State who were public creditors. Of this half, about one hundred and sixty thousand dollars only were accordingly issued, and of these, which ought to have been all redeemed on the first day of last July, there yet remains a ballance of about seventy thousand dollars unredeemed.

Called upon by the Constitution, by the Confederation, and by our affection for the Commonwealth, to offer what information we can upon affairs of so much moment, we ardently wish your Honorable House may join with us in opinion, that it is proper, first to relieve the citizens whose circumstances demand the most immediate attention; next to dispose of the lands belonging to the State to the best advantage; allow time for the United States to carry into effect their measures for the benefit of the Union; and then to provide for paying principal and interest to the public creditors who remain unsatisfied, in such manner as shall by the Legislature be judged equitable and advisable.

JOHN DICKINSON.

Council Chamber, Philadelphia, December 4th, 1784.

The Council met.

PHILADELPHIA, Monday, December 6th, 1784.

PRESENT:

His Excellency JOHN DICKINSON, Esquire, President.

The Honorable JAMES IRVINE, Esquire, Vice President.

John M'Dowell,
Jonathan Hoge,
Isaac Meason,
John Neville,
Mr. Balliot,
Charles Biddle, and
Daniel Hiester,
Esquires.

The Comptroller General's reports upon the following accounts were read and approved.

Of George Graff, Esquire, as Collector of excise in the county of Northampton, from the twentieth of June, 1782, untill the twentieth day of June, 1784.

Upon the surplus certificates of George Clouse, Jacob Wilhelm, Peter Evenrider, John Close, Matthias Albert, John Hardwerk, and Peter Hardwerk.

A draft of a message to the General Assembly was laid before the Council, and the same being read and considered, was adopted as follows, and presented by the Secretary, vizt:

N 1 11 Dec [illegible]

Recit d'un Conseil tenu au fort Stanix par le Gouverneur de Nouvel york & les Sauvages du St. Louis & autres Villages;

Mes frères

Nous ne cesserons de remercier le Maître de la Vie de Vous Procurer le Plaisir de vous voir sur nos Terres; Sans que nous vous ayons demandé, Et que nous n rien à démeler avec Vous;

Vous N'ignorez pas mes frères que quant nous av fait la Paix avec le Roy Lord Votre Père, que vous y av été compris comme ses Sujets, & que nous vous av toujours regardé pour tels

Vous allez être témoins d'un Conseil que les Commissaires des 13 Provinces vont tenir avec les Six Nations, pour terminer un traité avec Eux, dans le quel nous vous Engageons de ne point vous mêler, puisque nous sommes prevenu qu'ils sont mal Intentionnés & qu'ils ont desja fait leurs Possibles pour Indisposer les Nations contre nous à quoy ils n'ont pas pu Réussir

Comme Je n'ay rien à faire dans ce Conseil, Je vo Previens de mon départ; & prie L'Etre Suprême d nous Conserver en bonne Union;

Chlr Lorimier Interpre

Recit d'un Conseil tenu par le Marquis de la Galliet au Village des Honoyoth, Parlant aux Sept Villages du Canada, 15 Jours apres celuy du Gouverneur de Nouvel york

Mes Enfants

Je suis venu Expres pour vous souhaiter le bonjour Et vous marquer ma Joye, de ce que le Maitre de la vie a bien voulut vous Conserver;

Je profite de cette Occasion pour vous temoigner ma reconnoissance de la façon avec la quelle vous vous Etes comporté avec votre Souverain, pendant cette guerre, ce qui me prouve que vous Etes de fidels Sujets, et que vous n'avez pas oubliés les avis que je vous ay donné en vous Laissant; qui Etoit de Reconnoitre le Roy D'Engletere notre vainqueur pour votre maitre;

Je vous dit aussy en vous Laissant que je ne vous faisoit pas un adieu Eternel, qu'un jour viendroit que la Racine de L'arbre qui Lioit nos Coeurs, reprendroit sa force et nous Ralieroit;

Ce Tems n'est pas Loing, ne Soyés point Inquiete mes Enfants, de toutes les Ligues que vous voyes tirer sur mes Enciennes Terres, J'ose vous assurer que sous trois ans, J'y rentreray, & que J'auray le Plaisir de Recidiver le bonjour que Je viens de vous donner; Chle Lorimier interprette

Recit d'un Conseil tenu par les Commissaires
des 13 Provinces, pour Regler les affaires avec
les 6 Nations, au fort Stanix, En presence des
Chaœnon, Loup, Honoyoth & les 7 Villages du
Canada 6 Jours apres Celuy du Marquis delaf

Nos Freres

Nous vous avons demandés icy En Conseil pour re
Plusieurs affaires Importantes, autant pour vous qu
Nous, & nous Esperons que le Maître de la Vie Voudra
aider a terminer a votre satisfaction & a La notre;

Nous Commencerons par vous faire observer toute
vos fautes & Trahisons; au Commencement de no
Troubles avec notre Pere le Roy D'Engletere, vous Ete
venu nous trouver a Albany pour nous Jurer un
grande fidelité, chose que nous N'exigions point,
dont nous N'avions pas Besoin;

Le jour apres vous en avez été faire autant a
Chœguin, a Guy Johnson, qui vous reçut avec Joy
& vous Conduisit En Pompe a Montreal, ou vous ave
pris la Hache, et Etes venû nous la Planter dans
la tête, massacrer nos femmes & Enfants;

Tout le tems qu'ont duré ces Troubles, votre Pere
vous à serez dans ses bras, & vous a donné des
Marques D'amitié; mais a peine sont ils finy, qu'il
vous a Rejetter Comme un vieux Chausson, sans
S'inquieter dans le traité que nous avons fait Ensemb
quel Terre vous Pourriez Habiter;

Nous vous Regardons du fond de nos Province
avec des yeux de Compassion, C'est pour quoy nous

avons decidé, de vous donner un Coin de terre, qui puissent vous Contenir Gracieusement, cest a quoy Je vous prie Refléchir,

Nous Jettons la Cendre sur le feux Jusqua prez demain.

Chles Lorimier interprette

Recit du discours des Sauvages En Rep du premier Conseil, & Reponse des Commi des 13 Provinces

Nos Freres

auvages

Vous nous avez priés dans le dernier Conseil de fa Réflection à Loffre que vous nous faisiez de nou Laisser rentrer sur nos Terres;

Nous vous demanderons donc a prendre depuis La Riviere Cuyahogin Jusqu'a la Riviere pour nous les 6 Nations seulement, & de Livrer Chaouenon et aux Loups les Terres dont ils Jouiss anciennement, cest la le seul moyen de nous mett d'accord,

eponse

Nos freres avez vous fait la moindre réflex sur les demandes Indiscretes que vous nous fa auriez vous oublié la vente que vous nous en a fait, et dont nous avons les Contrats Icy, et Le Personnes qui vous a payé La somme, de plus vous avons nous par Conquis, a la verité ave de Peine, puisque vous avez toujours fuit deva

ainsy nos freres Reflechissez plus murem a ce dernier discourt;

Nous Rejettons la Cendre sur le feux, Espe que demain vous nous Parlerez avec plus de bo

Chr Lorimier interprett

N 5

Suitte du Conseil avec les Commissaires des 13 Provinces

Nos Freres

Sauvages Nous avons Refléchies aux discours que vous No avez tenû hier, & nous Consentons à Rentrer dans anciens Villages Seulement, ou nous Resterons la Baissé, Sans nous meler d'aucunes affaires de Guer quelque Evenements qu'ils puissent arriver;

Commissaires Nos Freres nous Sommes charmés de vous fa observer que nous vous Tenons dans le creux de la mai comme un morceau d'eponge Moullié, que la prem Trahison que vous voudrez Commettre nous fermer Sa main & vous Ecraserons de maniere que votre Sang et le Jus de votre Corp nous decoulera Ent Les doigs;

Vous Nous dites que vous allez rentrer dans villages, nous y Consentons; En Consequence nous al Planter une arbre dont les Racines n'aurons point de fin, qui Sera Composé de 13 Grosses Branches, q En formerons des Milliers de Petites, et dont la cim Se perdra dans les Nués;

Cette arbre Sera Inebranlable et personnes ne pourons L'endommager; nous vous Engageons a Profiter de son ombrage ou vous Serez à fumer en paix à labry de tout Mauvais Tems; nous vous Prevenons Cependant que

Sous peu de tems il Viendra un Coup de Vent du Nord qui Pouroit fracasser quelques petites Branches, alors Nous Vous Conseillions de vous mettre du Cotté du Sud de cette Arbre, Crainte que ces Branches Ne Vous Deviennent Prejudiciables

Nous Esperons que Vous Comprendrez cette Parabole

Sauvages

Nos freres nous Comprenons Clairement Vos Discours & nous Vous disons que quant ce Coup de Vent que Vous nous annoncez Viendra, que Nous Nous Jetterons au Sud de l'arbre Et La Sy nous Reclamons Votre assistance nous la donnerez Vous, Comme a Vos freres, que nous Voulons Etre a l'avenir;

Commissaires

Nos freres Nous Sommes Charmé de Vos Intentions & nous oublions tout le passé, nous Esperons que le Maitre de la Vie voudra Vous y Maintenir,

Tant qu'a notre assistance nous Vous la donnerons Comme a des alliez Revenu dans Le bon chemins

Nous Eteignons notre feux & prions L'Etre Suprême qui Vous Remene chacuns a Vos Camps.

Chr Lorimier interprette

Received Decr. 11th 1784 N.

Recit d'un Conseil tenu au Fort Stanwix par le Gouverneur de Nouvel York et les Sauvages du Sault St. Louis et autres Village

Mrs. Washington unites in affectionate regards for you, Mrs. Clinton, and family; and with every sentiment of friendship and respect, I am, &c.

P. S. Tell Walker, that Mrs. Washington and I join in congratulating with him on his matrimonial connexion, and hope he will enjoy all the comforts and pleasures, which are to be derived from a *good* wife.[1]

TO RICHARD HENRY LEE, PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.[2]

MOUNT VERNON, 14 December, 1784.

DEAR SIR,

The letter, which you did me the honor to write to me on the 20th of last month, only came to my hands by the post preceding the date of this. For the copy of the treaty held with the Six Nations, at Fort Stanwix, you will please to accept my thanks. These people have given, I think, all that the United States could reasonably have required of them; more, perhaps, than the State of New York conceives ought to have been asked from them, by any other than their own legislature.

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[1] The next morning the House of Assembly passed the following resolution:

"Resolved, *nemine contradicente*, that, as a mark of their reverence for his character, and affection for his person, a committee of five members be appointed to wait upon him with the respectful regards of this House; to express to him the satisfaction they feel in the opportunity afforded by his presence, of offering this tribute to his merit; and to assure him, that, as they not only retain the most lasting impressions of the transcendent services rendered in his late public character, but have since his return to private life experienced proofs, that no change of situation can turn his thoughts from the welfare of his country, so his happiness can never cease to be an object of their most devout wishes and fervent supplications.

"Mr. Henry, Mr. Madison, Mr. Jones, Mr. C. H. Harrison, and Mr. Carrington are appointed a committee."

To the committee of five members, who were the bearers of this resolve, and of whom Patrick Henry was chairman, General Washington replied:

"My sensibility is deeply affected by this distinguished mark of the affectionate regard of your honorable House. I lament, on this occasion, the want of those powers which would enable me to do justice to my feelings, and shall rely upon your indulgent report to supply the defect; at the same time I pray you to present, for me, the strongest assurances of unalterable affection and gratitude, for this last pleasing and flattering attention of my country."

[2] Mr. Lee had been chosen President of Congress on the 30th of November.

I wish they were better satisfied. Individual States opposing the measures of the United States, encroaching upon the territory of each other, and setting up old and obsolete claims, is verifying the predictions of our enemies, and is truly unfortunate. If the western tribes are as well disposed to treat with us as the Six Nations have been, and will cede a competent district of country northwest of the Ohio to answer our present purposes, it would be a circumstance as unexpected as pleasing to me; for it was apprehended, that they should agree to the latter reluctantly if at all; but the example of the Northern Indians, who, (if they have not relinquished their claim,) have pretensions to a large part of those lands, may have a powerful influence on the western gentry, and smooth the way for the commissioners, who have proceeded to Cayahoga.[1]

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[1] The commissioners, Wolcott, Lee, and Butler, came to Fort Stanwix and found Lafayette already there. On a suggestion, and after some bickering, the Marquis made a speech to the Indians, and was, during his stay, of more importance to them than the commissioners, which gave umbrage to Arthur Lee. Madison, who was also present, details the matter, and hints that the commissioners were embarrassed by their instructions, "which left them no space for negotiation or concession." They were also impeded by the independent negotiations of New York with the Indians. "The Governor of this State not only attempted to hold a treaty before and separate from that of the U. S., but has absolutely done all in his power to frustrate ours."—*Arthur Lee to*

It gave me pleasure to find, by the last gazettes, that a sufficient number of States had assembled to form a Congress, and that you were chosen to preside in it.[1] On this event, permit me to offer my compliments of congratulation. To whatever causes the delay of this meeting may have been ascribed, it most certainly has an unfavorable aspect; contributes to lessen, already too low, the dignity and importance of the federal government, and is hurtful to our national character in the eyes of Europe.

It is said (I do not know how founded), that our Assembly have repealed their former act respecting British debts. If this be true, and the State of New York has not acted repugnantly to the terms of the treaty, the British government can no longer hold the western posts under that cover; but I shall be mistaken if they do not entrench themselves behind some other

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Jacob Read, 29 October, 1784. In one of Washington's letters, it is hinted, that the negotiations were fruitless, as the deputies on the part of the Indians were not properly authorized to treat—an error, perhaps, for deputies of Congress. For it led him to add: "Certain it is in my opinion that there is a kind of fatality attending all our public measures. Inconceivable delays, particular states counteracting the plans of the United States when submitted to them, opposing each other upon all occasions, torn by internal disputes, or supinely negligent and inattentive to every thing which is not local and self-interesting, and very often short sighted in these,—make up our system of conduct. Would to God our own countrymen, who are entrusted with the management of the political machine, could view things by that large and extensive scale upon which it is measured by foreigners, and by the statesmen of Europe, who see what we might be and predict what we shall come to. In fact, our federal government is a name without substance. No state is longer bound by its edicts than it suits *present* purposes, without looking to the Consequences. How then can we fail in a little time becoming the sport of European politics, and the victims of our own policy."—*To Knox*, 5 November, 1784.

[1] Although Congress was to have assembled October 30th, it was not organized until November 30th.

expedient to effect it, or will appoint a time for surrendering them, of which we cannot avail ourselves; the probable consequence of which will be the destruction of the works.[1]

The Assemblies of Virginia and Maryland have now under consideration the extension of the inland navigation of the rivers Potomac and James, and opening a communication between them and the western waters. They seem fully impressed with the political as well as the commercial advantages, which would result from the accomplishment of these great objects, and I hope will embrace the present moment to put them in train for speedy execution. Would it not, at the same time, be worthy of the wisdom and attention of Congress to have the western waters well explored, the navigation of them fully ascertained, accurately laid down, and a complete and perfect map made of the country; at least as far westwardly as the Miamies, running into the Ohio and Lake Erie, and to see how the waters of them communicate with the River St. Joseph, which empties into the Lake Michigan, and with the Wabash. I cannot forbear observing here that the Miami village, in Hutchins's map, if it and the waters here mentioned are laid down with any degree of accuracy, points to a very important post for the Union. The expense attending the undertaking could not be great, the advantages would be unbounded; for sure I am, nature has made such a display of her bounties in those regions, that the more the country is explored, the more it will rise in estimation, consequently the greater will the revenue be to the Union.

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[1] In December, 1783, the Virginia Assembly revived two acts passed during the war, which suspended all voluntary and fraudulent assignments of debt, and as to others, allowed real and personal property to be tendered in discharge of executions. Joseph Jones, deeming speedy payment of the debts due to British creditors impracticable, wished to make periodical payments of the principal, though, with Jefferson, of the opinion that the treaty subjected debtors to the payment of interest also.—*Jones to Jefferson*, 28 February, 1784. In June, 1784, the courts were to be opened to British suits only when reparation should have been made for negroes carried off by the British. The minority of the State Senate protested against this measure, and it was admitted that a large majority of the people condemned it, either from a sense of justice or national faith.—*Madison to Jefferson*, 3 July and 20 August, 1784. In November the proposition of Mr. Jones passed in committee by a large majority, disallowing the interest, and it was to this bill, as yet not a law, that Washington referred. After discussing the terms of payment, the measure went to the Senate, where some discriminations were inserted; it was, in a committee of conference, made acceptable to both Houses, but its final acceptance was prevented by the adjournment of the Assembly.—*Madison to Jefferson*, 9 January, 1785.

In March, 1783, New York passed an act declaring that in any action by the proprietor of a house or tenement against the occupant, no military order should be a justification. It was on this law that the case of Rutgers *vs.* Waddington was tried. In May, 1784, a law was passed confirming in express terms all confiscations before made, notwithstanding errors in the proceedings, and taking away the writ of error upon any judgment previously rendered. This act, passed when the feeling was strongly aroused over the British retention of the posts, was, in Hamilton's opinion, a new confiscation, and involved an infraction of the treaty.—*Hamilton's Works* (Lodge), iv., 408. It may be noted that Hamilton believed that "it was not till about May, 1784, that we can charge upon Great Britain a delinquency as to the surrender of the posts."

Would there be any impropriety, do you think, Sir, in reserving for special sale all mines, minerals, and salt springs, in the general grants of land belonging to the United States? The public, instead of the few knowing ones, might in this case receive the benefits, which would result from the sale of them, without infringing any rule of justice that occurs to me, or their own laws; but, on the contrary, inflict a just punishment upon those, who in defiance of the latter have dared to create enemies & to disturb the public tranquillity, by roaming over the country, marking and surveying the valuable spots in it, to the great disquiet of the western tribes of Indians, who have viewed these transactions with jealous indignation. To hit upon a happy medium price for the western lands, for the prevention of monopoly on one hand, and not discouraging useful settlers on the other, will, no doubt, require consideration; but should not employ too much time before it is announced. The spirit for emigration is great. People have got impatient, and, though you cannot stop the road, it is yet in your power to mark the way; a little while, and you will not be able to do either. It is easier to prevent than to remedy an evil. I shall be very happy in the continuation of your correspondence; and, with sentiments of great esteem and respect, I have the honor to be, &c.

TO MAJOR-GENERAL KNOX.

MOUNT VERNON, 5 January, 1785.

MY DEAR SIR,

About the beginning of last month I wrote you a pretty long letter, and soon after, received your favor of the 23d. of November. It is not the letters from my friends which give me trouble, or add ought to my perplexity. I receive them with pleasure, and pay as much attention to them as my avocations will admit.

Estimate of the Expence attending the Indian Treaties held at Fort Stanwix & Beaver Creek in pursuance of an Act of Congress of 3.d June 1784. as Extracted from the Treasury Books – – viz

To James O'Hara, for Merchandize, Rations &c as settled at the Treasury – – – – – }	34,504. 83
To William Duer, – for Provisions &c – – – –	5,576. 08.
For Salaries of the Commissioners – their Secretary Messengers, Interpreters, Conductors, Guides &c. &c – – – – – – – –	10,627. 78
Total Doll.s	50,709. 49

The Treaty held by Genl.s Parsons, and Butler, in 1785 (though productive of little or no Effect) cost more than that of 1784 – Exclusive of the above Expenditures considerable Sums have been Spent in Treaties with the Southern Indians —

Expenses of the treaties held
at fort Stanwix & Beaver creek
& of treaty made by Genl.
Parsons & Butler —

Copy of the Mohawks Speech

Cataraqui. Jan. 12. 1785.

Major Potts.— Brother"

You the Commander of this place, I have received your letter of 14th December, 1784; you wrote for us to come down to you (a few of the Chiefs and leading men;) to hear a speech that you had to deliver to us from his Excellency General Haldimand. We were glad to hear it, imagining its import was some good news to us; we have wrote you, that you should not be uneasy, if we did not appear at the very day appointed. Brother Major Potts.

We now have heard every word you said, we thank you for having communicated to us the Generals sentiments, it enlarges our thoughts from afar, in hearing your speech, and remembers us even when of old time we became friends and brethren. We now expected that you woud refresh our memory with your words, but instead of that, you say that you are working for our good, and we shall act and behave as you do, we only want that you should tell us how & what to do: You may perhaps want to lead us here and there, as we do to beasts; you now have the care of us it is true; but we wonder much to hear you say, "too much and too great expence." But remember we have always been firm in our loyal sentiments since our union. Remember our meeting at Montreal, when you went over sea, we then had a discourse together 25th Aug. 1778; you always have had fair words to our minds, and you often asked us, what would satisfy us, and make us happy, also often repeated the same discourse, as his Excellency General Carleton kept with us at Montreal 15th March, 1777; we then told him we should be glad to carry on the war with all haste poſsible. Brother, I have not yet forgot all these things though I have no learning, I only make use of belts according to our

Indian custom; you are perhaps acquainted with our firmneſs and steadineſs when we have settled any thing whatever; also our strong resolution in whatever is done, we Mohawks.

Brother:

The story would be too long, if I was to enter into the whole narrative of all the fair promises, that we have had from you, from time to time, since I don't doubt but you have all these things in writing, and the account on which we are here struggling is poor & miserable life.

We have been down to Quebec to his Excellency Gen. Haldimand; as soon as we heard that you had made peace with your sons. We were much surprised at our not being included in it; then again we heard the General speak in our favour; in May 27th, 1783: He said, that he participated with us in our loſses & misfortunes; and that he would make it up to us in some measure, and asked us in what place we would choose to settle again, and likewise of what he promised us, such as a grist & saw-mill; and now it seems "too great expence." — Was it for that reason we encouraged you to overcome our enemies, had you allowed us to have acted as we wished to have done, you would not have had now such great expences on our account; we told you of it then; now it is come to paſs. — That is the cause of our wonders; your talk and your discourses are not as they were before: But notwithstanding we do not think that these discourses come altogether from you, they came from some other quarter. — Sir, excuse these broken discourses and examine them well. — Brother, I will repeat this to you again, that when we have settled any thing, it is immutable. We have chosen this place to settle in, and we have done it, and we cannot remove: We are now but few people when divided; but in the same sentiment, on the same side & way of our brother. We know this, that the Americans are again going to work, to try to deceive people; for I know them too well. only take notice, what will become of those that settle near them, (some of the Six Nations,) as for us we are determined to stay here where we are now; we care not if it will be the means of our poverty, the being true loyalists, and being steady for the King, you are mentioning great expence, it is true; but see we have left every thing that we poſseſsed in our country, however we do not care for all our poſseſsions & estates, we only want to be true & faithful, as our fore fathers have been.

But you seem to be doing & acting contrary to your promises of times past.

I say only these few words, which I had from General Haldimand, and which I have well in my mind.

Sign'd
John Deserontyon

Inclosed your Excellency will be pleased to receive another Monthly return of the Troops, dated the 1st inst.

The whole corps have been on constant fatigue since their arrival here, in repairing the fort, and fitting up rooms, Stores, &c., for accommodating the Continental and State Commissioners; which has injured the clothing much.

A few days since, the Treaty commenced, and I believe will be satisfactorily concluded against the latter end of this month; altho' the Chiefs of the *Wyondot's*, *Chippaway's Delaware's* & *Otaway's*, which are the Nations that are assembled here,) in a speech they delivered at the Council fire yesterday, held out an Idea to the Continental Commissioners, that they still looked upon the Lands which the United States held by the Treaty with Great Britain, as their own; but the Commissioners have answered them in a high tone; the Purport of which was, that as they had adhered during the war to the King of Great Britain, they were considered by us as a conquered people, and had therefore nothing to expect from the United States, but must depend altogether upon their Lenity and Generosity. This spirited answer it is supposed will have the Desired Effect.

The State Commissioners I believe will not have the least difficulty in transacting their business, which lays with the Wyondot & Delaware Nations.

I have the honor to be,
with the greatest Esteem
& respect, your Excellency's
& The Honorable Council's
most hble. & obdt. Servt.,
JOS. HARMAR,
Lt. Col. Com. 1st Amⁿ Regt.

Directed,

His Excellency, John Dickinson, Esq., President, & The Honorable The Supreme Executive Council.

INDIAN COMM'RS TO PRES. DICKINSON, 1785.

Fort McIntosh, Jan'y 16, 1785.

Sir,

Opportunities to Philadelphia very seldom offer, and indeed the present is an uncertain one, we therefore hope this will apologize for our communications not being more frequent.

We now have the honor of informing your Excellency that our business wears a very promising aspect. The Wiandotts and the several Tribes of the Delaware Nation with whom alone we are to negociate, (for the Shawanese have no claim,) have agreed to our proposals, and as soon as peace shall be established, which we doubt

* See page 398.

not, the Continental Commissioners will effect in a few days, we shall have our Deed executed in due legal form for the unpurchased Lands within the acknowledged limits of Pennsylvania.*

Desirous of returning to Philadelphia to make a final Report of our proceedings to your Excellency and the Honorable Council, we shall use all possible diligence in bringing our negociations to a close. We have the Honor to be,

your Excellency's most obedient
and very humble servants,
SAM'L J. ATLEE,
FRAN'S JOHNSTON.

Directed,—Public Service.

His Excellency, John Dickinson, Esqr., President in Council, Philadelphia.

THOS. MCKEAN TO PRES. DICKINSON, 1785.

Philadelphia, January 17th, 1785.

Sir,

A certain Abraham Bare & son of John Bare, a worthy citizen of Lancaster county, about the month of January, 1778, being then a very young man, was seduced by a traitor to assist him in conveying several Hessian prisoners of war from Lancaster to this City, and for reward delivering them up to General Sir William Howe. As soon as this traffick was discovered, Judge Atlee issued his warrant to apprehend them, but they fled, and took refuge with the British army. However a short time previous to their evacuation of the city, Bare left them, was attainted of treason by a proclamation of the Supreme Executive Council, and his estate was sold by the Agents for forfeited estates; since this he has lurked in secret places in the back counties, in constant dread of the hand of justice.

Judge Atlee has lately informed me that he is fully satisfied, this man has become a sincere penitent. In consideration of which, he joins with me in recommending him as an object worthy of the humanity and mercy of Your Excellency and the Council, and in interceding for a pardon for his person, "that he may live and not die." I have the honor to be,

with the most perfect
Esteem, Sir, Your
Excellency's most
obedient and very
humble servant,
THOS. McKEAN.†

Directed,

His Excellency, John Dickinson, Esquire, President, &c., of Pennsylvania.

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* This deed was signed January 21, 1785; see this and all other documents relating to this purchase in the Journals of Assembly, February, —April, 1785. Note to Smith's Laws, Vol. II., p. 123.

† See Col. Rec., Vol. XIV., p. 318.

A Treaty concluded by the Commiſsioners of the United States at Fort McIntosh.. Jan 20. 1785.–

Article 1..

Three Chiefs One from the Wiandot and two from among the Delaware Nations ſhall be delivered up to the Commiſsioners of the United States to be by them detained till all the Priſoners white and black taken by the ſaid Nations or any of them ſhall be restored –

Article 2d.. The ſaid Nations do acknowledge themſelves and all their tribes to be under the Protection of the United States and of no other Sovereign whatever–

Article 3d.– The Boundary Line between the United States and the Wiandot and Delaware Nations ſhall begin at the River Cayahoga and run thence up the ſaid River to the Portage between that and the Tuscarawas Branch of Muskingum thence down the ſaid Branch to the Forks at the croſsing Place above Fort Lawrence thence westerly to that Branch of the Big Miami which runs into the Ohio at the Mouth of which Branch the Fort stood which was taken by the French in 1752 – thence along the ſaid Portage to the great Miami ~~which runs into the Ohio~~ or Omi River and down the South east ſide of the ſame to its Mouth–

Thence along the South Shore of Cayahoga
where it began

Article 4: The United States allot all the
Lands contained within the ſaid Lines to the
Wiandot and Delaware Nations to live and hunt on
and to ſuch of the Ottawa Nation as now live
thereon ſaving and reſerving for the Eſtabliſh
ment of trading Posts ſix Miles Square at the Mouth
of the Miami or Omi River and the ſame at
the Portage on that Part of the big Miami which
run into the Ohio and the ſame on the Lake of
Sandusky ~~River which Port and the Lands annexed~~
where the Fort formerly stood
~~to them~~ and alſo two Miles Square on each ſide
of the lower Rapids of Sanduskee River which
Posts and the Lands annexed to them ſhall be to
the uſe and under the Government of the United
States —

Article 5 — If any Citizen of the United States or
Other Perſon not being an Indian ſhall attempt to
ſettle on any of the Lands allotted to the Wiandot
and Delaware Nations in this Treaty (excepting the
Lands reſerved to the United States in the preceeding
Article) ſuch Perſon ſhall forfeit the Protection of
the United States and the Indians may puniſh him
as they pleaſe —

Article 6: — The Indians who ſign this Treaty as
well in behalf of all their Tribes as of themſelves
Do hereby Acknowledge the Lands east ſouth and
west of the Lines deſcribed in the third Article so farr
as the ſaid Indians formerly claimed the ſame to belong
to the United States and none of their Tribes ſhall
preſume to ſettle upon the ſame or any part ~~thereof~~
of it —

Article 7th The Post of Detroit with a District
beginning at the Mouth of the River Rosine on
the west ~~Bench~~ End of Lake Erie and running
thence up the Southern Bank of ſaid River - thence
Northerly and always ſix Miles west of the Straight
till it ſtrikes the Lake St Clair ſhall be reserved
to the ſole use of the United States -

Article 8 In the ſame manner the Post of
Michellamanchinac with it's Dependencies and
twelve Miles square round the ſame ſhall be
reserved to the ſole use of the United States -

Article 9. ~~If~~ any Indian or Indians ſhall
commit a Robbery or Murder on any Citizen
of the United States - the Tribe to which such
Offenders ^may^ ſhall be Bound to deliver them up at
the nearest Post to be punished according to the
Ordinances of the United States -

Article 10th.. The Commiſsioners of the United States
in pursuance of the humane and liberal Views of
Congreſs upon the Treaty's being ſigned will direct
Goods to be distributed among the different Tribes
for their use and Comfort -

A Separate Article - It is agreed that the
Delaware Chiefs Kelelaland or Col Henry, Huaque-
Pushees or the Big Cat. Welocalind or Capt White Eyes
who took up the Hatchet for the United States during
the War and their Families ſhall be recived into the
Delaware Nation in the ſame Situation and Rank
as before the War, and injoy their due Portions of the
Lands given to the Wyandot and Delaware Nations

IV 15

In this Treaty — and all the other Benefits of the same as fully as if they had not taken part with America, or as any other Person or Persons in the said Nations —

Signed by George Rogers Clarke
Richard Butler
Arthur Lee —

21 Jan.y
1785 ..

THE CONNECTICUT
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Indian Treaty
Fort McIntosh
1785.
Extract of ..

C

Articles of a Treaty concluded at Fort Mc. Intosh, the 21st day of January 1785 Between the Commiſsioners plenipotentiary of the United States of America of the one part and the Sachems and Warriors of the Wiandot, Delaware, Chippawa and Ottawa Nations of the other.

The Commiſsioners plenipotentiary of the United States in Congreſs Aſsembled give peace to the Wiandot, Delaware, Chippawa and Ottawa Nations of Indians on the following Conditions

Article 1st Three Chiefs one from among the Wiandot and two from among the Delaware Nations shall be delivered up to the Commiſsioners of the United States to be by them retained, till all the Priſoners, white and black taken by the ſaid Nations or any of them shall be restored.

Article 2d The ſaid Indian Nations do acknowledge themſelves and all their Tribes to be under the protection of the United States and of no other Sovereign whatſoever.

Article 3. The boundary line between the United States and the Wiandot and

Delaware Nations shall begin at the mouth of the River Cayahoga, and run thence up the said river to the Portage between that and the Tuscarawa branch of Muskingum — then down the said branch to the forks at the crossing place above Fort Laurence — then westerly to the Portage of the Big Miami — which runs into the Ohio at the mouth of which branch the Fort stood which was taken by the French in 1752 — then along the said Portage to the Great Miami or Ome River — and down the South-east side of the same to its mouth, thence along the South Shore of Lake Erie to the mouth of Cayahoga where it began. ————

Article 4th. The United States allot all the Lands contained within the said Lines to the Wiandot, and Delaware Nations to live and to hunt on — and to such of the Ottawa Nation as now live thereon — saving and reserving for the establishment of trading Posts, six miles square at the mouth of Miami or Ome river — and the same at the Portage on that branch of the big Miami which runs into the Ohio — and the same on the Lake of Sanduske where the Fort formerly stood — and also two miles square on each side of the lower rapids of Sanduske river — which posts and the

Lands annexed to them shall be to the use and under the government of the United States—

Article 5th. If any Citizen of the United States or other perſon not being an Indian ſhall attempt to ſettle on any of the Lands allotted to the Wiandot and Delaware Nations, in this Treaty, except on the Lands reſerved to the United States in the preceding article; such person shall forfeit the protection of the United States and the Indians may punish him as they please.

Article 6th The Indians who sign this Treaty as well in behalf of all their Tribes as of themselves do acknowledge the Lands, East, South & West of the lines deſcribed in the third Article so far as the ſaid Indians formerly claimed the ſame to belong to the United States, and none of their Tribes shall preſume to ſettle upon the same or any part of it.

Article 7th The post of Detroit with a diſtrict beginning at the mouth of the river Rosine on the weſt end of Lake Erie and running weſt ſix miles up the ſouthern Bank of the said River— thence northerly and always ſix miles west of the ſtraits till it ſtrikes the Lake St Clair, shall be also reſerved to the sole use of the United States ——

Article 8th. In the same manner the post of Michillimackinac, with it's dependences and 12 miles square about the ſame, shall be reserved to the uſe of the United States ——

Article 9th. If any Indian or Indians shall commit a robbery or murder on any Citizen of the United States the tribe to which ſuch offenders may belong shall be bound to deliver them up at the nearest Post, to be punished according to the Ordinances of the United States ——

Article 10th. The Commiſsioners of the United States in purſuance of the humane and liberal views of Congreſs upon this Treaty's being ſigned will direct goods to be distributed among the different Tribes for their uſe and comfort ——

Separate Article —. It is agreed that the Delaware Chiefs Kelelamand, or Lt. Col. Henry, Henguepushes or the Big cat, Wicocalind, or Capt. White eyes — who took up the hatchet for the United States, and their families, Shall be received into the Delaware Nation, in the ſame ſituation and rank, as before the War — and enjoy their due portions of the Lands given to the Wiandot and Delaware Nations in this Treaty, as fully

— as if they had not taken part with America, or as any other Person or Persons in the said Nations —

Witnesses

Saml J. Atlee } Penns Commissrs
Francis Johnston }
Alexr Campbell
Jos. Harmar Lt Col. Comt
Alex. Lowrey
Joseph Nicholas inter
D. Bradford —
George Slaughter
Van Swearingen
John Boggs
J. Evans
D. Luckett —

Wiandots { Daunghquat .... ○
Abraham Kuhn ... ○
Ottawerreri .... ○

Delawares { Hobocan .... ○
Walendightun .... ○
Talapoxie .... ○
Wingenum .... ○
Packelant .... ○

Ottawas { Gingewanno .... ○
Waanoos .... ○
Konalawassee ... ○

Chippawas — { Shawnaqum ... ○
Quecookkia ... ○

G. Clark .... ○

Richard Butler ○

Arthur Lee ○

Endorsed as follows —

"Names of the Hostages delivered to the Commissioners by the Wiandots and Delawares —

Twotush } Wiandots, Sons to the half King —
Oromyough }
Nishequimmehung } — Delaware Chiefs
Meneshawlund }

No 13. The goods were distributed the 23 January and the Chiefs of each Tribe or Nation signed Receipts for them, the goods having been apportioned to the four Nations 2/4 to the Delawares 1/4 to the Wiandots, & 1/4 to the Chippawas and Ottawas —

A. Lee" —

Seneca Abeal { Kayenthoghke his + mark

Witneſses

Samˡ Jo. Atlee
Wᵐ Maclay
Franˢ Johnston } Pennsy. Commiſsʳˢ
Aaron Hill
Alexander Campbell
Samˡ Kirkland Miſsʸ

James Dean
Samˡ Montgomery
Derick Lane Capt.
John Mercer Lieut.
William Pennington Lieut.
Mahlon Ford Ensign
Hugh Peebles

Articles of a Treaty concluded at Fort McIntosh, the 21st day of January 1785, between the Commiſsioners plenipotentiary of the United States of America of the one part, and the Sachems and Warriors of the Wiandot, Delaware, Chippawa and Ottawa Nations of the other

The Commiſsioners plenipotentiary of the United States in Congreſs Aſsembled, give peace to the Wiandot, Delaware, Chippawa and Ottawa Nations of Indians, on the following Conditions.

Article 1. Three Chiefs, one from among the Wiandot, and two from among the Delaware Nations, shall be delivered up to the Commiſsioners of the United States, to be by them retained till all the Priſoners white and black taken by the said Nations or any of them, shall be restored.

Article 2. The said Indian Nations do acknowledge themselves and all their tribes to be under the protection of the United States, and of no other Sovereign whatſoever.

Article 3. The boundary line between the United States and the Wiandot and Delaware Nations, shall begin at the mouth of the river Cayahoga, and run thence up the said river to the Portage, between that and the Tuſcarawas branch of Muskingum — then down the said branch to the forks at the croſsing place above Fort Lawrence — then westerly to the Portage of the Big Miami; which runs into the Ohio, at the mouth of which branch the fort stood, which was taken by the French in one thousand seven hundred and fifty two, then along the said Portage to the Great Miami, or Ome River, and down the ſouth-east side of the same to its mouth, thence along the south ſhore of lake Erie, to the mouth of Cayahoga where it began.

Article 4th The United States allot all the lands contained within the said lines to the Wiandot and Delaware Nations, to live and to hunt on, and to such of the Ottawa Nation as now live thereon; ſaving and reſerving for the establishment of trading poſts, ſix miles square at the mouth of Miami or Ome river, and the same at the Portage on that branch of the Big Miami, which runs into the Ohio, and the same on the lake of Sandusky, where the fort formerly stood, and also two miles square on each side of the lower rapids of Sandusky River which posts and the lands annexed to them, shall be to the use and under the government of the United States

Article 5th If any Citizen of the United States or other perſon, not being an Indian, shall attempt to ſettle on any of the lands allotted to the Wiandot and Delaware Nation in this treaty, except on the lands reserved to the United States i the preceding Article, such perſon shall forfeit the protection of the United States, and the Indians may punish him as they please

Article 6th The Indians who ſign this Treaty, as well in behalf of all their tribes as of themselves, do acknowledg the lands east, south and west of the lines described in the third Article, so far as the said Indians formerly claimed the ſame, to belong to the United States, and none of their tribes shall presum to settle upon the same, or any part of it.

Article 7 The post of Detroit, with a distanc beginning at the mouth of the River Rosine, on the west end of lake Erie, and running west ſix miles up the southern bank of the said River, thence Northerly and always six miles west of t strait, till it strikes the lake St Clair, shall be also reserved to the sole use of the United States

Article 8th In the same manner the Post of Michillmackinac with its dependencies, and twelve miles squar without the same, shall be reserved to the use of the United States.

Article 9th If any Indian or Indians, shall commit a robbery or murder on any Citizen of the United States, the tribe to which such Offenders may belong, shall be bound to deliver them up at the nearest Post, to be punished according to the Ordinances of the United States.

Article 10th The Commiſsioners of the United ~~States~~ in pursuance of the humane and liberal views of Congreſs upon this treaty's being signed, will direct goods to be distributed among the different tribes for their use and comfort.

Separate Article It is agreed that the Delaware Chiefs Kelelamand or Colonel Henry Hengue-pushees, or the Big Cat Wicocalind, or Captain White Eyes, who took up the hatchet for the United States, and their families, shall be received into the Delaware Nation, in the same situation and rank as before the War, and enjoy their due Portions of the lands given to the Wiandot and Delaware Nations, in this treaty, as fully as if they had not taken part with America, or as any other Person or Persons in the said Nations.

George Clarke L.S.
Richard Butler L.S.
Arthur Lee L.S.

Delawares
Hobocan
Walendightun
Talapoxie
Wingenum
Packelant

Wiandots
Daunghquat
Abraham Kuhn
Ottawerreri

Ottawas
Gingewano
Waanoos
Konalawaſsee

Chippawas { Shaumaquino
Quecookkia

Witneſses
Saml. Atlee
Francis Johnson } Penſyl. Commrs.
Alexr. Campbell
Jos. Harmar Lt. Col. Comandant
Alexr. Lowrey

Joseph Nicholas int.
I. Bradford
George Slaughter
Van Swearinger
John Boggs
G. Evans
D. Luckett

Endorſed as follows

C. Names of the Hoſtages delivered to the Commiſsione
by the Wiandots and Delawares

Scotush
Crionyough } Wiandots, Sons to the Half King
Nishecjummchung
Meneshawlund } Delaware Chiefs

N. B. The goods were distributed the 23 January and the Chiefs of each Tribe or Nation ſigned receipts for them; the goods having been apportioned to the four Nations 2/4 to the Delawares, 1/4 to the Wiandots, and 1/4 to the Chippawa and Ottawas.

A. Lee

C

Articles of a Treaty, concluded at the mouth of the Great Miami, on the north western bank of the Ohio, the thirty first of January, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty ſix, between the Commiſsioners plenipotentia of the United States of America, of the one part, and the Chiefs and Warriors of the Shawanoe Nation of the other part.

Rapport et Déclaration

faite par Gowaniente, Chef au Village de S.t Regis, regardant les Débats divers Conseils tenus au Fort Stanwix et Environs, par Messieurs le Commissionnaires des 13 Provinces unies, le Général Marquis de la Fayette, avec les six Nations & autres Indiens, dont ledit Chef Gowaniente étoit un de ses Orateurs comme fait au Conseil tenu au Sault S.t Louis les 24. 25. & 26 Janvier 1785, en Presence du Lieutenant Colonel Campbell, & autres Officiers au service du Gouvernement, des Chefs & Guerriers des Villages Environnans.

Ayant été Informé qu'il devoit se tenir au Fort Stanwix un Conseil Interessant pour toutes les Nations Sauvages, nous nous décidames d'y aller, en Conséquence nous partimes de nos Villages pour nous y rendre, & après quelques Jours de marche, nous arrivames le 14. Septembre 1784, ou de l'Enemie on étoit Logé le Gouverneur de Newyork, qui étoit arrivé

quelques

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible], [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] de M[illegible] —

Je [illegible] [illegible] cette lettre, [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible], je [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] demander
pas par le [illegible] [illegible] affaire [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
1776 [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] par le Roy
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] le
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] pour
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Wilkins
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] —

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible], [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible];
chez [illegible] [illegible] Bâtiment, sans nous
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] conséquence, & sans
nous

165

[illegible] nous [illegible] [illegible] lui, après luy avoir [illegible] le bonsoir. —

Le lendemain 15e Septembre 1784, Joseph Brant [illegible] vint [illegible] qui viendroit recevoir [illegible] réponses de [illegible], &c [illegible], Messieurs [illegible] le maître de [illegible] de [illegible] l'Empereur [illegible] [illegible] alles, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible], [illegible] Joseph [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] les armes, pour ôter la paix qui [illegible] notre [illegible], et [illegible] [illegible] pour [illegible] [illegible] —

Je vous donne ce collier, [illegible] de [illegible] qui nous accompagne partout [illegible] qui vous à [illegible] des [illegible] chose dans votre voyage, [illegible] [illegible] la [illegible] de [illegible] qui est [illegible] dans la terre, et [illegible] qu'on ne puisse rien appercevoir, voilà une [illegible] que je jette ici, (en donnant le collier) [illegible] [illegible] cette île, afin que vous puissiez voir vos Grands [illegible], et [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] attention tout ce qui vous concerne. —

Le 16e Joseph Brant se rendit chez [illegible] qui devoit les [illegible] conseil, avec [illegible] Bérenger

(2) [illegible]

[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] fraction [illegible]
[illegible] jusques
[illegible] gouvernement,
[illegible] toujours faire la
[illegible]

Le 16 [illegible] grands arbres,
[illegible] par trois
[illegible] Aller dans
[illegible] Village [illegible]
[illegible] 13 [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

Le 17 [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] terre [illegible]

Le 18 [illegible]
[illegible] branches de
[illegible]
[illegible] la
[illegible]

incessamment notre Village, Ravagé par le feu de l'ennemi; ensuitte, Nous reçumes un collier pour Couvrir la mort des Noÿés qui sont noyez pendant notre Route, Ils nous firent les mêmes Compliments qui nous avoient eté faits par [illegible] le Brann.—

Le même Jour Ils nous presenterent un autre Collier, en nous disant, Nos anciens Peres, quoy que nous soyons eloignés de vos villages, nous sçavons tout ce qui s'y passe, comme si nous y etions; nous sçavons vos Chefs de Village, vos Chefs de guerre, & vos guerriers, que le Mauvais Esprit vous enleve; nous sçavons vos femmes mourir, et suivant le dire de nos anciens, c'est une perte plus considerable que celle des hommes, puisqu'elles en peuvent produire. [illegible] nous sçavons aussi [illegible] douleur, que l'on a jetté vos petits enfants; nous voulons vous dire par ce Collier, rassemblez tous vos [illegible] morts, les mettez dans [illegible] [illegible] à Couvrir de cette Terre; en donnant ce Collier.—

Ensuitte, Ils nous presenterent un autre Collier au Nom des trois Villages, qui sont les Mozolles, Loups & Caskaskias, pour nous dire qu'il y avoit cy devant un beau Chemin entre les Villages et notre; mais quelques uns

de Mauvais

[illegible] y a jetté [illegible] de [illegible] Branches [illegible]; [illegible] qu'il [illegible] employer [illegible] bien qu'il [illegible] pays [illegible] sans [illegible].

Cinq [illegible] Branches de Loretains, [illegible] aux [illegible] Chef de [illegible] Alexandre [illegible] recondans [illegible] demandèrent, pourquoi [illegible] moyen de vivre en union; [illegible] ([illegible] Cinq Branches de Loretains) [illegible] engager [illegible] Chefs, [illegible] Branches [illegible] Guerriers de Sept Villages [illegible] Chefs; [illegible] Trois [illegible] Loretains, [illegible] lui [illegible]

feu pour éclairer vos Conseils. ces Quatre
Brasses de Porcelaine, que nous vous
donnons sont pour mettre dans vos sacs,
en souvenir de l'Alliance que nous
Renouvelons aujourd'hui, tandis que
votre Père le Roy d'Angleterre est en
Guerre avec ses Enfants, il nous a
toujours été Bonne, & [illegible] des
Mariages entre vous & nous, Ce Collier
que je vous fais Présentement est pour dissiper
toutes les Mauvaises Nuées, qui vous
Cachent le Soleil, afin que vos Enfants
qui naissent, puissent Du plaisir à
le voir.

Vingt jours après seulement, nous
attendions les Chefs des six Nations,
que l'on envoyoit Chercher à Niagara;
qui avoient été Retardés par une
Maladie de Bile. — Ce tems Écoulé,
un de nos gens arriva du Fort Stanwix,
pour nous avertir qu'il y avoit un
Général François au Fort Stanwix;
c'étoit Le Marquis de la Fayette. —
Pendant que nous nous Préparions
pour aller le Saluer, nous le vimes
arriver à cheval, avec cinq Officiers
François: & [illegible] les Onayottes —
qui le suivoient

[illegible] tenir le Conseil,
[illegible] les Deputés [illegible] leur harangue.
[illegible]
de leur [illegible] & [illegible] village en
Canada, [illegible] quelqu'uns [illegible] Presents.
Il Repondit [illegible] ces termes: Mes Enfants,
[illegible] le maitre de la vie, de m'avoir rendu
[illegible] votre village, [illegible]
[illegible] long tems [illegible]
[illegible] votre établissement:
[illegible] le maitre de la vie, de me
donner la satisfaction de vous voir dans ce
Village. Cependant je ne vous dis point
[illegible], car [illegible] Brave que
vous soyes Comme nous sujets du Roy
d'Angleterre; [illegible] les Mayottes,
nous Engageront [illegible] faire une Reponse
[illegible] en luy disant que nous
étions [illegible] que le maitre de la vie,
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] Mayottes, de venir [illegible]
[illegible] de leur [illegible], &
[illegible]

Le Lendemain 13e octobre, le general ouvrit
le conseil, [illegible] trouverent [illegible]
Compris les Mayottes & [illegible] avec
nous

vous les sept villages; il commençat à dresser la [illegible] aux lés [illegible] cornes — Mes Enfants, si vous aviés voulu suivre les Conseils que je vous donnay il y a sept ans, vos pertes auroient été moins considérables qu'elles ne le sont; vous voyés aujourd'hui les Commissionnaires des treize États Unis, qui viennent pour traiter une Paix avec vous; je vous invite à vous accorder avec eux, si vous avés la moindre Considération pour la Conservation de vos Enfants; — puisque ce n'est que par une Paix, que vous pouvés prolonger leurs jours; car je dois vous dire, que nous sommes trois Grandes Puissances liées avec l'Amérique, par une Chaine si forte, que Rien ne peut la Briser; voicy le Guarand de ma parolle (en donnant un Grand Collier de Porcelaine Blanche) que je vous prie de faire connoitre à toutes les Nations, avec qui vous avés Communication; je vous le Répète, je suis parti de france par ordre de mon Roy, pour Régler quelqu'affaires avec les Americains; si je peux parvenir à faire la Paix entre les Nations, & les Americains, vous me verrés bientost ouvrir les Portes de mon Commerce, qui vous rendra vos marchandises aussi Communes que

celles

allez dans vos villages; si vous ne m'en Croyez pas, venez ce printems a Versailles, c'est mon Bâtiment, vous vous embarquerez avec moy et vous verrez de vos propres yeux le Roy de france qui vous en convaincra luy même; ensuite, il s'adressa aux Onoyottes, Tuscarorins et Loups, pour vous mes Enfants, je prends toute la part aux peines que vous avez souffertes, dans cette Guerre; Je vous fais mon compliment de la manière avec la quelle vous vous êtes Comportés; puis revenant aux Agniers, Il leurs dit; je suis Charmé que vous n'ayez point oublié des Paroles que je vous ay donné, en laissant le Pays au Roy d'Angleterre, de luy être aussi fidels que vous me l'étiez, je suis tres satisfait que vous luy ayez été aussi attachés.

Le Lendemain 14e Octobre, les six Nations se rendirent chez le marquis de la fayette, qui n'étoit pas parti, pour luy dire, Mon Pere, nous ne Croyons le devoir donner aucune Réponse, nos Principaux Chefs n'étant point icy; cependant ta Parole nous parait si Claire, que nous Prenons la Résolution de te Répondre, au Nom de tous les Villages, t'assurons que tout ce que tu nous a Prescrit sera Executé.

de point en point; nous le Prions donc de faire Passer nôtre Parolle, en Presentant un Grand Collier, a nôtre Pere le Roy de france; pour ce qui est de nos gens, que tu veux nous amener avec toy, nous nous consulterons. —— cette Réponce fut faitte a ce Général par le Nommé Kagentoke, Chef Tsonnontouin, & dicté par David anier. ——

Le 15 Kharann, & David aniers, avec Okaenyon, Chef Tsonontouin, se rendirent chés les Commissionnaires, avec leurs gens, pour demander a accellerer le Conseil, parce que David & le Chef Tsonontouin, avoient donné leur Parolle a Joseph Brann, de Partir le Lendemain, pour aller le rejoindre a Quebec, ou ils devoient s'embarquer tous trois pour L'angleterre; ils auroient voulu savoir le Resultat du Conseil, pour en faire part a Joseph Brann; il leur fut répondu de la part des Commissionnaires, qu'ils ne Commenceroient a traitter aucunes affaires avant trois ou quatre jours, tems auquel devoient arriver dix Chefs Tsonontouins, qui venoient a travers les terres; par cette Réponce, David & le Chef Tsonontouin, se determinerent a se retirer, & Ils partirent.

Le 16, Pendant ce tems, nos freres les

Chawaynons

Chaouaynons, au nombre de Cinq arriverent
en notre feu, & nous dirent, mes freres, nous
ſommes venus paſser un instant avec vous,
pour parler de toutes ſortes de Choses, &
nous desennuyer: Comme Il n'y a rien de
Certain dans la vie des hommes, & que
dieu Diſpose de nous comme Il luy plait,
nous Commencerons a nous Informer
de la santé de vos Chefs, & de vos guerriers;
n'ayant ſçû qu'indirectement de vos nouvelles
pendant toute cette Guerre, par nos
freres les Miamis, qui nous ont fait
paſser vos Paroles; nous leur repondimes
que nous avions toujours pris le party
du Roy, aussi a Coeur qu'il nous avoit
eté Poſsible; que nous n'avions ceſsé
d'aller en Guerre, autant que nôtre Pere
l'avoit Exigé; que pendant ce tems la, —
nos Chefs n'avoient eté occupés qu'à
Conduire leurs villages, et Engager les
jeunes gens a ſuivre la volonté de leur
Pere, qui leur venoit de la part du Roy;

Le 17e. Un Jeune Guerrier Chaouaynon, vint
de la part des Chefs, nous inviter a leur
rendre la visite qu'ils nous avoient faite
la veille; nous acceptames son invitation,
et nous nous y Rendimes. — Quelques
Chefs

(175) 13

Chefs des Sept Villages, Etoient a leur Campement, un d'eux vint nous Recevoir, & nous Conduisit au bord du bois ou ils étoient assemblés: nous leur Rendimes les mêmes Compliments, en nous informant dela santé de tous les Chefs, ainsi que de ceux qui Composent leur Villages, un d'eux prit ensuitte la Parolle en ces termes, (par huit Branches de Porcelaines) Mes Freres depuis que la Paix a été faitte, entre toutes les Nations Sauvages, nous vous avons toujours Regardés Comme vos ainés, puis que c'est chez vous, ou est le Grand feu, nous nous sommes toujours attachés a vous Imiter, Ecouter vôtre Parolle, comme l'ont fait toutes les Nations du soleil Couchant, aussi nous n'avons rien Epargné pour la faire Passer, du soleil levant, a tous vos freres, Jusqu'au bord de la mer; nous vous montrons l'homme qui a été Chargé de vos Colliers & allumettes de Paix; nous vous assurons, mes freres, que tant qu'il y aura des Sauvages sur la terre, nous vous Regarderons toujours Comme nos ainés, ne voulant rien avoir a faire avec nos freres les six Nations, le seul plaisir de vous voir, nous a amenés icy, ou nous avons été Appellés

en ville

en vôtre Nom par les six Nations, au grand Conseil qui se tint [illegible] à Niagara, quand nos freres ainés les hurons du Détroit & nous, fumes rendus au dit lieu, nos freres les Aniers nous y annoncerent que le feu étoit allumé au fort [illegible], & que c'étoit là, ou nous devions nous rendre, & ou nous trouverions [illegible] Principaux Chefs des Sept Villages du Canada; nos freres ainés les hurons découvrirent aisémt. la supercherie de nos freres les Aniers, et prirent le parti de s'en retourner, disant qu'ils avoient assez à conduire leurs Villages, sans se mêler dans des affaires Etrangeres; pour moy, mes freres, je n'ay continué ma Route que par la seule satisfaction de voir vos Villages, & je Profiterai de cette occasion, pour saluer nos oncles Communs, les Chefs des Sept Villages du Canada; je vous [illegible] mes freres, que nous avions fait passer vôtre Calumet de paix chez toutes les Nations, il n'est pas encore de Retour, sans quoy nous vous l'aurions fait fumer, & nous l'aurions fait repasser à nos oncles les Chefs des Sept Villages du Canada.

Le 9 les Commissionnaires du Congres, au nombre de six, nous appellerent au Conseil, pour dire en s'adressant aux six Nations, Mes Freres nous sommes venus députés de nos treize Provinces pour traitter avec vous de bonnes affaires, pour preuve de la vérité de nôtre Députation, nous vous montrerons nos Patentes, en deployant un Parchemin Imprimé, avec des Cachets en Cire jaune, qui passa de main en main, ajoutant de ne jamais Ecouter aucunes personnes, qui viendroient leur parler d'affaires, sans être Munis de Pareils Titres. — Haram Chef anier, & Kayentoké chef Sannontouan, répondirent, mes Freres, nous venons de voir les patentes dont vous êtes Munis, pour venir traiter avec nous; nous Ecoutons vos Parolles, si toutes fois elles nous conviennent, cette réponce terminat le Conseil de ce jour. —

Le 18 le Conseil étant assemblé, les Commissionnaires dirent, mes freres, apres vous avoir fait voir les Pouvoirs dont nous sommes revetus, pour cette Negociation, nous vous faisons part de la Paix que nous avons faite, avec nôtre Pere le Roy d'angleterre, c'est luy qui nous a Proposé, de se Reconcilier avec nous, nous n'avons voulu rien Entendre jusqu'à ce quil nous ait montré les terres quil vouloit nous abandonner, qui sont en prenant depuis Hallifax, en droitte ligne sur la riviere Katarakouy, de la continuant dans le milieu du Lac Ontario, passant à la Chutte Niagara; ensuitte de même dans le Lac Erié, nous donnant toujours le lieu de la tombée du Lac des bois jusqu'à Michillimakina cette même ligne Continuant jusqu'à la Mer; vous voyez, mes Freres, par ce traitté que toutes vos terres sont en nôtre Cession, que le Roy D'angleterre n'a fait nulle mention de vous, non plus que si vous n'étiez pas existants; Il s'est servi de vous dans son verein, & vous a Rejetté comme un vieux Chausson, abandonné à quiconque voudroit le décasser; nous vous Rappellons aujourd'hui encore, pour traitter avec vous à vôtre satisfaction, & celle des Etats, qui nous ont députés vers vous; c'est à Vous à nous demander le terrein que vous Croyez vous appartenir.

Le 19, le Conseil étant Rassemblé, Haramm frere de David avoir s'adressé aux Sept Villages en ces termes; Mes freres, vous nous voyez en Conseil Aujourd'hui chez les Bastonois, avec qui nous avons eu Guerre, pour parler de bonnes affaires, nous vous donnons ces quatre Branches de Porceline, pour vous ouvrir les yeux, & éclaircir vôtre Esprit; puis il porta la Parolle aux Députés des Provinces, en disant; Mes freres, vous nous avez appellés hier en Conseil, pour nous dire les lignes qui devoient avoir lieu entr vous & nous; nous vous disons que nos terres commencent a Scaoquen, vont tomber sur la Riviere ohio, qui sert de lignes jusqu'à la sortie; vous nous avez dit de vous demander a nôtre satisfaction & a la nôtre, c'est pourquoy nous vous démontrons cette Etendue de terres; nous vous disons que nôtre Esprit est fort, & qu'il voit de Loin; nous traittons non seulemt. pour ceux qui sont devant nous, mais aussi pour ceux qui nous suivent, en conséquence nous vous demandons l'Etendue de terres que nous venons de nommer, pour contenir aisement toutes les six Nations; nous ne pensons pas que pour nous, aussi pour nos freres les Chaouanons, qui vous demontreront leur Lignes; ainsy que feront les autres nations, quand nous vous disons que nôtre Esprit est fort, ce n'est pas sans Connoissance de Causes, que nous avons pris le parti du Roy D'angleterre nôtre Pere, parceque nos ancêtres avoient fait une alliance avec luy, & s'etoient pris par la main, aussi du moment qu'il a eu Guerre avec vous, nous n'avons eu rien de plus a Coeur, que de le servir: aujourd'huy qu'il a Rompu cette alliance par la Paix, qu'il a faite avec vous, nous sommes devenus nos maitres, & rien ne nous fera plus de plaisir, que de nous réconcilier avec vous: Nous vous dirons encore quá Lávenir, nous voulons rester tranquils, nous ſommes Charmés de vous faire ſavoir, que nous les ſix Nations, ne craignons personne; car si par hazard quelque Natiône nous déclaroit une Guerre, Jamais nous ne Reclamerions vôtre aſsistance, ny celle de Personne, nous vous avons désigné nôtre Vœu, étant unis, vous devez ſavoir que nôtre Esprit est Uni avec les Chaouaynons, qui est le milieu de nos Villages pour Gagner le pays des Cherokées, qui Joignent leur Esprit au Nôtre: nous avons auſsi tous les Esprits des Nations au ſoleil Couchant, voila auſsi nos freres Cicents, les ſept Villages du Canada, que nous tenons ſous nos ailles, & qui ſont a nôtre Volonté; nous vous avons frappé avec la Hache du Roy d'angleterre; dont Ils ont été les Premiers a ſe servir, contre vous; ce discours finit le Conseil de ce jour.

Le 20 Apres que le Conseil fut aſsemblé, les Commiſsionnaires Répondirent, ainsy vous autres les ſix Nations, qui vous vantés d'avoir tant d'Esprit & de N'ignorer de rien, vous vous Rapelles dites vous L'alliance que vos ancêtres ont fait avec le Roy D'angleterre, Ignorez vous Celle que vous avez faite avec les americains a Albani, en leur donnant la main, vous leur promittes une Fidelité

mutuelle, qu [illegible] toujours durer, j'ignore
vous une che [illegible] résenté, après avoir
nouvelle [illegible] ce, a Germanf
vous ve [illegible] venir fondre
nous, répendre le [illegible]
enfants, qui rejall [illegible]
villages que vous [illegible] avés Représentés com
tous, n'étoient pas de vôtre Parti, vous parlés d'eux
vous en leurs Noms, nous ne voyons pas pour
quelle Raison, puis qu'il est vray qu'ils ont été
compris dans l'arrangement fait avec le Roy
d'Angleterre leur Pere, vous venés nous Citer
toutes les Nations du Costé du Soleil Couchant,
mais ou sont les Figures & les Colliers qui
vous authorisent a parler pour Eux? ainsi
mes freres ne parlés que pour vous, nous
savons ce qui se passe partout, c'est pourquoi
nous serons sourds a ce que vous voulés
nous dire; pour les autres, nous vous Rapel-
lerons Encore la vente que vous nous avés
faite de vos terres icy au fort Stanwix, dont
vous avés reçu six milles Piastres Comptant,
& quatre mil que vous devés Recevoir au
Printems; nous sommes a même de vous
montrer la Carte, qui vous fera voir
l'Etendüe de nos Possessions, dans laquelle
vous n'êtes que comme une petite tache
noire, nous vous disons donc les six Nations
qui

qui n'avez [illegible] Personne, nous vous tenons dans le Coeur de la main; il ne tient qu'à vous de la serrer pour [illegible] c'est [illegible] nous que nous [illegible] vous vous seriez chargés de vous l'entendre dire, en passant sous silence des faits que vous avez rapellez, plustôt capables d'aigrir les Esprits, que de les porter à la Paix, pour laquelle nous vous avons assemblés ~~En~~ Plain Conseil.

Le dit Kackkoui Chef Sonontouan, s'éleva en plein Conseil & se tournant du côté des Commissaires leur dit, nous vous avons dit les terres que nous reclamions, vous n'en paroissez pas satisfaits, nous vous prions donc de nous faire connoître celles que vous croyez nous appartenir, nous nous en rapporterons à vôtre Décision, & nous espérons qu'elle sera à vôtre satisfaction, et à la nôtre. — les Commissionnaires répondirent ainsi: Nous les Députés des Etats Unis, Envoyés de Philadelphie, décidons que nous prendrons six lieues quarrées à Chouaguen, qui se trouvera dans le Centre, ensuitte nous ferons courir la ligne le long du lac, jusqu'à la Riviére au Marais au Boeuf, en laissant Niagara à main droitte, suivant le long du détour de la Riviére de la Rivière au Beuf, toujours sur le bord du Lac, Continuant jusqu'à Sandoski; ensuitte Revenant au Fort Duquênes.

Kaetessony au Nom des six Nations consentit a cette decision, avec la Réserve du droit de Chasse dans toute L'Espace des terres cy dessus desnommées, par les Commissionaires qui firent apporter un parchemin [illegible], dans lequel fut inseré que si quelqu'un Contrevenoit aux Conventions Exprimées dans ce Parchemin, marqué d'un Grand Cachet noir, il seroit puni de mort; ainsy fut signé par les Commissionnaires, et plusieurs particuliers des differentes Provinces unies ensuitte par Haram, Chef des Six nations, qui signa luy même, le Nom des Cinq nations, qui ne sçavoient pas signer, furent apposés par d'autres qui le firent pour Eux, apres quoy les Commissionnaires tirerent un Collier d'un pied de Large, & de deux pieds de Long, en disant, Mes freres, ce Collier signifie beaucoup de choses, il est d'abord le Signe de la Paix, & d'une Alliance que rien ne poura dissoudre, il est simbole du feu de Conseil, que nous allumons chez nos Freres Les Onoyottes; ce Collier étoit tenu par les Commissionnaires a un bout, & par Les Principaux Chefs des six Nations, haraun chef en tête, a L'autre bout, & par deux Chefs Onoyottes, [illegible]eyottes au Milieu de leur Village [illegible] un arbre, qui selevera a perte de vüe dans le village dont les Racinnes n'auront point de fin dans la terre, et formera par ses branches un Grand ombrage; nous vous Invitons a en Profiter, pour fumer en Paix, & travailler aux bonnes affaires; cependt. comme vous étes du Costé du Nord, il s'eleve souvent des vents de cette partie, Capable de l'Endommager, & d'en casser quelques Branches, nous nous attendons que vous ferez vôtre Possible pour le Preserver, en ne Negligeant rien pour nous en informer. — Karann repondit au Nom de l'assemblée, Mes freres, nous avons compris vôtre Parabole, nous donnerons nos soins pour soutenir l'arbre de Paix, & nous Esperons que vous ne nous abandonnerez point, ainsy se termina ce Grand conseil, avec les six Nations; a qui les Commissionnaires firent delivrer des presents en si grande quantité, qu'ils prendront tout l'hiver a les transporter a leurs Villages; c'est pourquoy, Karann & Gaonentariete sont restés pour garder les effets jusqu'a ce qu'ils soient rendus a leur Village; les Commissionnaires s'etant retirés, les Onneyottes nous porterent la Parolle par quatre Branches; a present que nous sommes en Paix, nous n'avons plus qu'a nous entretenir du Plaisir qu'ont les jeunes gens Lors qu'ils vont a la Chasse, en suivant les Limites Marquées; du tems de nos Ancêtres, entre vos villages & les nôtres, que vous devez connoitre: nous Répondîmes que ces Limites nous étoient entierement Inconnües; nous avions entendu dire seulement que le Roy de france avoit montré en Conseil Général a nos ancêtres, un Plat, une Mikouenne, un Couteau, un Morceau de viande, & du Bouillon; disant que nous devions nous servir du tout Egalement pour nous donner a Entendre, que le droit de Chasse nous étoit Commun.

Voicy Mon Père le Recit général de ce qui s'est passé au fort Stanix, nous n'avons plus qu'a te faire nos Excuses, d'être sortis de nos Villages contre la volonté de nos Chefs qui vouloient nous Retenir parce qu'ils sçavoient que cela te deplairoit; mais nous nous sommes trouvés Engagés par Sir John Johnson, qui Craignant que les six Nations ne fussent Embarassées, nous Invita de les accompagner, pour leur servir d'apuy dans le Traitté qu'ils alloient faire avec les Americains: nous n'avons espé Mon Pere d'implorer le

Maitre de la vie; de nous Préserver de rien faire contre ta volonté, ny celle de nos Chefs, & nous Croyons nous être Comportés avec tant de Prudence en cette Occasion, que nous desirerions le faire en toutes autres; nous prenons le Ciel a temoing de la vérité des Choses que nous venons de te Répeter, & nous Esperons, Mon Pere, que tu voudras oublier nôtre Ecart, & faire Retuire le soleil sur nos Villages, Comme au Paravant !

Autre Rapport fait au Lieutenant Colonelle Campbell, par un Chef et deux Guerriers Sauvages, du Lac des Deux Montagnes, aussi Présents à tous les conseils tenus au Fort Stanwix, qui differe du Rapport qu'a fait cy Dessus Orawiente Chef de St. Regis, au discours ou harangues de la Fayette avec les Sauvages du Canada, en présence des Messieurs cy Dessus denommés, & des Chefs du Village du Sault St Louis, qui avoient été appellés pour être témoins de ce Rapport, comme suit

Le Marquis de la Fayette s'adressant aux Sept Villages leur dit, Mes Enfants, votre pere le Roy de France, depuis qu'il vous a laissez, ne vous a point perdus de vüe, Il a tout su ce qui vous est arrivé dans vos villages, il avoit fait toutes les Préparations pour venir vous Rejoindre, & comme tous ses effets étoient dans ses vaisseaux, Nos freres Les Americains sont venus en pleurant, demander son secours, ce qui a fait changer son projet pour ce tems, & a donné à nos alliés les Bastonnois ses vaisseaux tout chargés: je vous repete en Consequence, que dans 3. 4. a 5 ans au plustard, je serai sur mes terres du Canada, je me rendrois

plustot

Par les arrangements qui se sont [illegible] entre les Nations Sauvages; j'engage mes Enfants à vivre en Union avec vous tous les Canadiens, & vous soutenir dans toutes les Adversités qui pourront vous arriver; puisque vous êtes les Natifs du pays, j'ai ouï dire que le Roy d'Angleterre [illegible] sur les têtes; mais que vous ne serez rien de sa [illegible], mais moy je la connois bien! comme nous sommes tous mortels, peut être que le Nombre des Sept Villages qui est icy à present ne sera plus dans ce tems, mais [illegible] il en reviendra qui y dit la vérité —— aujourd'hui je vous dis donc, mes Enfants, de n'oublier ma Parolle dans l'absence de votre Pere ——

Quand le Roy d'Angleterre m'a renvoié en Canada, vous étiez toutes en ma Ceinture, comme vous êtes à présent actuellement; et quand je me [illegible] avec lui, [illegible] encore pendu à la Ceinture; jusqu'à ce que [illegible], & chaque de mes terres; alors vous me tendrez les bras, et vous [illegible] comme auparavant!

Nous voilà obligés de nous séparer, et de me retirer sur mes anciennes terres, ce je ne fais [illegible] avec bien de la difficulté;

96)

en me Quittant, je vous dis mes Enfants, vous engage à être fidels au Roy d'angleterre, autant que vous me l'avez été; mais ce jour je vous en ai imposé, en vous disant que dans sept ans je reviendrois sur mes terres; ce tems est passé, j'ay été interrompu par divers troubles, qui se sont passés entre le Roy Dangleterre et les americains vous voyez ces Cinq Officiers, qui m'accompagnent, dont trois sont ordon pour porter ma Parolle du costé du soleil couchant, & redescendront par la Rivière de Michillimakinac, vous les verrez peut être ce Printems dans vos Villages.

True Translation of the within Letter from Capt. Jn. Mohk. Chief
Montr.l 15. Febry 1785 –

Brother Gov.r or Superintend.t Totsitsyowane

I hope this may find you in health And this Letter come safe. As I came down here with a troubled which heart on Gen.l Haldimand's Account, being very much shocked about his doings. I have already wrote my Mind to our Superintend.t Sir Jn. Johnson, and told him everything from the Bottom of my heart, for which Reason I add only these few Words to yourself to assure you that what I wrote to him were the real Sentiments of my Mind, wherefore I entreat you to join me, as you are perfectly acquainted with the Matter I wrote about, and the reason of our settling at the Bay of Quinte. I indeed foretold you that we could not depend on our Friends I mean Capt. Brants party. And you see how they have acted a shamefull part in giving up or sacrificing their Country; for which reason I think it the more cruel & hard in General Haldimand to say it was for our peace & Interest to move to little Oswego. But I believe it is not his doings he adopted some bad Advice or other. You must know it is my Love & Care for our Women & Childeren as well as for those poor Loyalists who have settled there whose Cause is ours; Thus much my Elder Br. Brother. I am persuaded you know what I mean. viz.t no Defer.a to blind as J: B:

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From Capt. Jn. Deserontyon
Montreal 15 Febry 1785.
Recd. by the March Packet
from N. York in April

Adjeu may the Allmighty grant that we may meet again, also Sir John Johnson our Superint.t

Signed John Deserontyon

To Superint.t Totsitsyowane
London

Montrial Feby 15th 1765 —

Dyatateken ne Gorah —

Shotsitsyowane Aontyesen Shieanea thaaghsonnhege Ensayatereame Saghyadonghsera Wagarighhoni heathe Waagwatho Tsiyaghteyonwese Nagweryane Tsinoneenonghwahtea Tsinahayere ne Gorah — Asharegowa Eso Dagattonnege Oneasane Wahyaton Nagenigonra Ongwagora Onwanonghsi ne enghyaghroni ne nagweryen Wahiaghgewea — ne gadi ne Togaranigawea nage Nagonghyadonse Naserhege Togeaghsgeonewe eghniyogh Nagenigon Neoni Naaghsetsyagea Caghsgwayenawase ichen Tsi Agwegon Sateryeatari Tsiwagarighhoni Paykenty nagweateron Wagea Naghti onghsonghwajok Tsineayawea ne Radinonghsyonni Onea Nonwa Togeaghsge yotighkat wahonteweateghte Raonanghweatsya Negaldi Ongeneghrago Tsinahayere Nasharegowa ne Raaton Sewanireagsera Naghswegeaesweghte igaghresane yaghraonh Dehoriwa Tsiwagarighhoni Eghnahare kagiohnontawe Nagoriwa Serhek shadi genoronghgwa nagonheghtyeaogonagh eschaogona oni Wagarighhoni Paykenty wakatyea Nokhone Tsietoro Raditeron ne Togeaghsgeonwe Shaongwariwat ne Raditiat — ou Lailis Etho Rahtsi hanehte neomisateryeatare Nagenigonra

Ceaagipdenrhege ne Rawenni Sheanea thaonsagonyotgaghtho oni onwanonghsiishon ne Gorah

Gorah Snots. Tsiowanidanton

John Deserontyon

Resolved, That the claimants be respectively informed that the fifteenth day of March next is set apart by Council for the purpose of receiving their several pretensions and proofs.

The Council met.

PHILADELPHIA, Wednesday, February 23rd, 1785.

PRESENT:

His Excellency JOHN DICKINSON, Esquire, President.

The Honorable JAMES IRVINE, Esquire, Vice President.

Jonathan Hoge, John Woods,
John Whitehill, Charles Biddle,
James McLene, Isaac Meason, and
John Boyd, John Neville,
Esquires.

A report of the proceedings of the Commissioners appointed to treat with the several Indian tribes for the purchase of such land as, falling within the acknowledged limits of Pennsylvania, remained yet unpurchased, was presented to Council and read.

Ordered, That the deeds contained in the above report be recorded, according to law.

The Council met.

PHILADELPHIA, Thursday, February 24th, 1785.

PRESENT:

His Excellency JOHN DICKINSON, Esquire, President.

The Honorable JAMES IRVINE, Esquire, Vice President.

Jonathan Hoge, John Woods,
James McLene, Charles Biddle,
John Whitehill, Isaac Meason, and
John Boyd, John Neville,
Esquires.

The Comptroller General's reports upon the following accounts were read and approved, vizt:

Of David Williamson, Alexander Kidd, Robert Guthrey, David Rankin, Thomas White, Thomas Roberts, William McHoge, Thomas Marchant, William Martin, Thomas Rankin, John Hays, John Grant, and William Hibbert, Thomas Rogers, Matthew Johnston, Alexander Wells, James McKays, Nicholas Gance, John Glenn, Humphrey Atkinson, John Armstrong, David Cochran, Brice McGilson, Samuel Johnstone, Samuel Shannon, George Atkinson, Alexander Wright, and James Edgar, (all of the county of Washington,) for provisions furnished the militia under different draughts, at different times.

Of John Thompson, also, for his services as Waggon Master of the county of Bucks.

Of Robert Peobles, Esquire, of Cumberland county, for repairing arms in 1782.

Arthur St. Clair, Esquire, for military stores in 1776.

Of John Coxe, for sundry articles for the Pennsylvania Salt works; and

Of Captain Andrew Swearingen's Ranging company, for pay from March to November, 1781.

In consequence of the resolution to pull down and dispose of the several materials composing the old jail and workhouse, it was

Ordered, That Mr. Joseph Stiles be instructed to remove from thence to some place of security and convenience, all the military and other stores, the property of the State.

The following draft of a message to the General Assembly, upon the subject of the late treaties with the different nations, was read and adopted:

A Message from the President and the Supreme Executive Council to the General Assembly:

GENTLEMEN:—We have the pleasure of informing you that at a treaty held last October, at Fort Stanwix, with the six nations called Mohocks, Oneidaes, Onondagoes, Cayugaes, Senecaes, and Tuscaroraes; and at another held last January, at Fort Mackintosh, with the two nations called Wyandots and Delawares, the Commissioners on the part of this Commonwealth have purchased from the said Indians, all the territory within the acknowledged limits of the State that had not been before bought from them.

The minutes of these treaties, the deeds, and copies of our instructions, and several other papers relating to this business, will be delivered with this message.

These conveyances compleating the sale of all the lands in this State, thus happily finishing the transactions of a century on that subject, having been obtained at public treaties, agreeably to ancient custom, with the approbation of the United States, the Indians acknowledging themselves "kindly" and "generously" dealt with, declaring that "Pennsylvania has never deceived or wronged them, and thanked her, not only from their lips, but from their hearts." We are perswaded that such a fair, equitable, and honorable confirmation of the public interest in so very large and valuable a tract of country, must be exceedingly agreeable to the good people of Pennsylvania.

It is cause of addition satisfaction that in accomplishing this important object, a due regard has been had for the Fœderal Councils, and that a friendly correspondence between the Continental Commissioners and our own, subsisted throughout the treaties.

As we have every reason to believe that the affections of the Indians are now conciliated, their confidence gained, and their former friendship restored, in such a manner that their present dispositions may, by proper measures, be improved to great advantages, we hope your Honorable House will judge their requests worthy of immediate attention.

We should not do justice to the merit of our Commissioners, if we neglected to express ourselves very sensible of the ability, diligence, frugality and fidelity, with which they have discharged the trust reposed in them.

JOHN DICKINSON.

Council Chamber, Philadelphia, February 24th.

On consideration,

Resolved, That an order be drawn upon the Treasurer in favor of the non-commissioned officers and privates of Captain Thomas Stokely's company of Rangers, agreeably to the Comptroller General's report dated the twenty-fifth day of February, 1784, payable to the claimants respectively, or their order, by the Comptroller General.

The Comptroller General's report upon the accounts of Robert Bridges, was read, and an order taken the said Bridges do furnish a satisfactory evidence, by receipt from the different officers, or otherwise, that the supplies were yielded, as charged in his account against the Commonwealth.

The Council met.

PHILADELPHIA, Friday, February 25th, 1785.

PRESENT:

His Excellency JOHN DICKINSON, Esquire, President.

The Honorable JAMES IRVINE, Esquire, Vice President.

Jonathan Hoge,
John Whitehill,
James McLene,
Charles Biddle,
John M'Dowell,
John Boyd,
John Woods,
John Neville, and
Isaac Meason,
Esquires.

William Whitebread attending in Council, informed the Board that he was now prepared to take the bond and mortgage given by

Sir! New York March 8th 1785

I think it my duty to inform Congress, that the measures necessary to be taken, preparatory to the treaty which appeared to their commissioners, proper & necessary to be held at post Vincent, on the 20th of June next; require ~~the~~ an immediate decision upon the additional goods, stores, & rations, which the commissioners have stated as requisite for the purpose.

The purchasing & transporting the Goods &c — the making a contract for the rations — the sending messengers into a country so far distant, in order to give the indian nations proper previous notice — & the appointment of the Officers necessary for the treaty — the former ones having been all dismissed by the commissioners, from motives of public oeconomy — will require all the time between this & the 20th of June. Should the time of holding the treaty be delayed in consequence of the necessary preparations not being made, there will be danger of getting into the sickly season which will be fatal ~~fatal to~~ ~~[illegible]~~ to the people & troops employed.

In the hope, that Congress would have been pleased to decide, by this time, on the resolutions & letter of the Commissioners Mr Butler & myself agreed to meet in Philadelphia by the 10th of this month at farthest, in order to make the necessary arrangements, which cannot be done, 'till we know the determination of Congress.

The troops now at fort McIntosh are fully adequate to the protection of the treaty, both in number, & in the time of their enlistments.

The security of the

western country, & consequently its value,
will depend as much on garrisoning proper
posts there, if the british garrisons shoud not
be withdrawn from those they now poſseſs
as upon the treaty; but it is neceſsary
the treaty shoud be settled, before the
proper posts can be taken with safety.

Permit me therefore Sir to hope,
that Congreſs will take the letter &
the Resolution of the Commiſsioners
into immediate consideration; without
which I am apprehensive, that
the public may suffer much injury.

I have the honor to be
with the greatest respect
Yr Excellency's most obedt
Servt Arthur Lee

Letter March 8, 1785
Arthur Lee
(Read 9. March

The **COMMITTEE** conſiſting of ~~to whom~~ were referred a **LETTER** and ſundry **PAPERS** from the Commiſſioners for negotiating **TREATIES** with the **INDIANS** purſuant to the Act of 15th October, 1783, beg leave to report the following **RESOLUTIONS**.

THAT in order to give greater ſecurity to the frontier ſettlement, and eſtabliſh a boundary line between the United States and the Potowatama, Twieghtwee, Piankiſhaw and other weſtern nations, a treaty be held with the ſaid Indians at ~~Fort~~ Poſt Vincent, on the Wabaſh river, on the 20th day of June ~~next~~ 1785 or at ſuch other place as the commiſſioners may find mo~~ſt~~re convenient, ~~on the [illegible] day of June next~~.

That 18,429 pounds weight of beef, 21,047lb. of flour, and ſalt in proportion, in addition to the rations now in uſe at Fort M'Intoſh, will be neceſſary for the ſaid treaty; and that the Commiſsioners of the Treasury take order to furniſh the ſame by contract.

That ~~the Commissioners of the Treasury furnish~~ the commiſſioners for holding the aforeſaid treaty, ~~with~~ purchase & cause to be transp. ~~for~~ ſuch goods as they may judge neceſſary in addition to the goods in ſtore at Fort M'Intoſh, to an amount not exceeding 3 000 dollars, ~~[illegible]~~ the Commissioners of the Treasury give order for transporting

~~That advance to the commiſſioners aforeſaid, the ſum of dollars, for the uſe and to be accounted for by the ſaid commiſſioners.~~ A

That the troops at ~~Fort M'Intoſh~~ the Western Posts or so many of them as may be required be ſubject to the order of the aforeſaid commiſſioners, for holding the treaty during the ~~holding of the aforeſaid treaty,~~ time of s^d. Treaty

A That the Com^rs. of the treasury take order to advance to the Com^rs. aforesaid the sum of 3000 dollars for which they are to account

17 March

A motion by M^r R R Livingston seconded by M^r Johnson to refer the above to the com^ee. to whom was referred an Ordinance ~~for to~~ ascertaining the mode of locating lands

When the question was about to be put the determination thereof was postponed by the state of ~~Pennsylvania~~ Rhode island

No. 11.—

Report on letters
of Commissioners for treating
with Indians in northern
& middle departmt
Monday 14 March assigned
Passed 18 March 1785

That a committee be appointed to revise & report what alterations, if any, are necessary to be made in the instructions given to the commissrs., authoriz'd to enter into commercial treaties with powers.

That no Purchases which may have been made from the Indians [illegible] the late Treaty at Fort Stanwicks of their Claims [illegible] may be within the limits of any State [illegible] be considered as interfering with the Claim of such State [illegible] or the [illegible] of jurisdiction.

Mr. King
Mr. Pinckney
Mr. Johnson
Mr. Lawrence

Motion of Mr. Pinckney
seconded by Mr. Hardy
Recommit
Determining the question
to commit [illegible] opposed by
State of Rhode Island
Agreed to. Notice given
by Mr. Howell that the yeas
& nays will be required

10

That three persons be appointed by Congress to be approved of by the contractors who shall hear the allegations and proofs of said contractors concerning the losses they have sustained by the Superintendent of Finance not having made his payments according to contract and that they shall determine what damages if any they ought to be allowed and the U. S. will compensate them accordingly.[1]

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 1785.

Congress assembled. Present, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina, and from the State of Georgia, Mr. [William] Houstoun.

A motion having been made yesterday by Mr. [Hugh] Williamson, seconded by Mr. [John] Sitgreaves, "That no purchase which may have been made from the Indians at the late treaty at Fort Stanwix, of their claim to soil within the limits of any State, ought to be considered as interfering with the claim of such State to the jurisdiction or soil."[1] A motion was made by Mr. [Charles] Pinckney, seconded by Mr. [Samuel] Hardy, to commit the same. When the question was about to be put, the determination thereof was postponed by the State of Rhode Island and the question for commitment being this day put, and the yeas and nays required thereon by Mr. W[illiam] Livingston,

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[1] This report, in the writing of Hugh Williamson, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 21, folio 379. According to Committee Book No. 190, the committee was renewed this day as Mr. [Hugh] Williamson, Mr. R. R. Livingston, Mr. [Samuel] Hardy, Mr. [Melancton] Smith and Mr. [John] Beatty, and this committee was renewed April 29.

April 5: The following committees were appointed:

Mr. [Gunning] Bedford, Mr. [William] Grayson and Mr. [Rufus] King, on the letter of April 5 from William Duer on "Deficiency in the paymt of the money ordered & want of money to pay for issues of March." Report was rendered April 11. Duer's letter was read in Congress April 5.

Mr. [William] Ellery, Mr. [Hugh] Williamson and Mr. [David] Howell, on memorial of "E. Waters comy in Canada under Halsted. Settlemt of his accts. Loss of his vouchers & claim for services." Report was rendered April 29.

Mr. [David] Howell, Mr. [John] Beatty and Mr. [William] Grayson, on the memorial of Michael Connolly, agent for New York troops, on the loss of his vouchers at Fort Stanwix. It was read this day and a report was rendered April 12. Connolly's memorial is in No. 41, II, folio 164.

On this day the letter of March 21, 1785, from Richard Soderstrom was referred to the Secretary for Foreign Affairs to report.

Committee Book No. 190.

Also, according to the indorsement, was read a letter of April 5, from John Runyon, requesting appointment as deputy surveyor in one of the new States It is in No. 78, XIX, folio 487.

Also the Secretary for Foreign Affairs reported this day on the letter from John Adams, dated January 10. The letter from Jay is in No. 80, I, folio 129, and his report is in No. 81, I, 183. Committee Book No. 191 states that the report was filed.

New Hampshire,		
Mr. Foster,	no	no
Long,	no	
Massachusetts,		
Mr. King,	ay	*
Rhode Island,		
Mr. Ellery,	no	no
Howell,	no	
Connecticut,		
Mr. Cook,	ay	ay
Johnson,	ay	
New York,		
Mr. W. Livingston,	ay	div.
Smith,	no	
New Jersey,		
Mr. Beatty,	ay	ay
Stewart,	ay	
Pennsylvania,		
Mr. Gardner,	ay	div.
W. Henry,	no	
Delaware,		
Mr. Vining,	no	div.
Bedford,	ay	
Maryland,		
Mr. J. Henry,	ay	div.
Hindman,	no	
Virginia,		
Mr. Hardy,	ay	ay
Monroe,	ay	
Lee,	ay	
Grayson,	ay	
North Carolina,		
Mr. Williamson,	no	div.
Sitgreaves,	ay	
South Carolina,		
Mr. Bull,	ay	ay
Pinckney,	ay	

So the question was lost.

A motion was then made by Mr. [David] Howell, seconded by Mr. [William] Ellery, in the words following:

Whereas the article of confederation provides that no state shall be deprived of territory, for the benefit of the United States, and the said article provides a mode of deciding upon the interfering claims of individual states, relatively to territorial or jurisdictional boundaries: And whereas the United States in Congress assembled, have accepted the Cessions of claims to Western territory, made by the States of Virginia and New York, and made purchases of the natives, of certain lands which they are about to expose to sale. And whereas the motion before Congress tends to draw out a decision from Congress, on a subject not submitted to them in the confederation, and of course would be nugatory, and might eventually prejudice the sale of the lands to be disposed of for the benefit of the federal Union. *Resolved*, That the motion before Congress be postponed.

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[1] This motion, in the writing of Hugh Williamson, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 36, II, folio 555.

A motion was made by Mr. [Rufus] King, seconded by Mr. [Melancton] Smith, to strike out all that precedes, "*Resolved,*" from, "Whereas the article," &c. to "federal Union," both inclusive: And on the question, shall that part of the motion stand? the yeas and nays being required by Mr. [David] Howell,

New Hampshire,		
Mr. Foster,	ay	ay
Long,	ay	
Massachusetts,		
Mr. Holten,	ay	div.
King,	no	
Rhode Island,		
Mr. Ellery,	ay	ay
Howell,	ay	
Connecticut,		
Mr. Cook,	no	no
Johnson,	no	
New York,		
Mr. W. Livingston,	no	no
Smith,	no	
New Jersey,		
Mr. Beatty,	no	div.
Stewart,	ay	
Pennsylvania,		
Mr. Gardner,	no	div.
W. Henry,	ay	
Delaware,		
Mr. Vining,	no	no
Bedford,	no	
Maryland,		
Mr. J. Henry,	ay	ay
Hindman,	ay	
Virginia,		
Mr. Monroe,	no	no
Lee,	no	
Grayson,	no	
North Carolina,		
Mr. Williamson,	no	no
Sitgreaves,	no	
South Carolina,		
Mr. Bull,	no	no
Pinckney,	no	

So it passed in the negative, and the words were struck out.

The motion as amended being, "That the motion before Congress be postponed;" A motion was then made by Mr.

[John] Beatty, seconded by Mr. [John] Vining, to amend the motion farther by adding "*until Monday next.*" And when the question was about to be put on the amendment, the determination thereof was postponed by the state of Rhode Island till tomorrow.

The Committee [consisting of Mr. David Howell, Mr. Hugh Williamson, Mr. Samuel Hardy, Mr. Lambert Cadwallader, and Mr. Rufus King] to whom was referred a Memorial from Robert Howe, Esq., late a Major General in the Armies of the United States, dated March 10, 1785, submit the following report:

Your Committee find that the Memorialist from peculiar circumstances has not been settled with or satisfied by any particular State for the depreciation on his pay as an officer in the public service and that the paymaster Genl. is not authorised to settle with him for the same by any existing resolutions of Congress—that from this cause as well as from the nature of the Commands devolved on him and which he executed with assiduity and constancy to the close of the war, he has been exposed to incur heavy debts which he has not been in capacity to discharge.

Your Committee also find from the shewing of the Memorialist to their satisfaction that he has demands on unliquidated account against the United States to a very large amount—and that he hath attended on the paymaster General for settlement but could not at that time obtain it—and that his present necessities call loudly on the public for relief.

Whereupon they beg leave to submit to Congress the following resolutions.

Res^{d}, That the paymaster Gen^{l} be authorised and directed to settle with the late Major Gen^{l} Robert Howe for the depreciation of his pay on the principles of the resolution of the 7th day of September, 1780.

Res^{d}, That the Commissioners of the Treasury be and they are hereby authorised and directed to advance to the late Major Gen^{l} R. Howe the sum of 7000 Dollars for which sum he is to be accountable.[1]

The report of the grand committee, on the requisition for the supplies of the present year, was taken up and on the question to reconsider the motion to strike out the words and figures, "Federal buildings, 30,000," resolved in the affirmative.

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[1] This report, in the writing of a clerk, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 19, III, folio 209. According to the indorsement it was read this day and Thursday next assigned for consideration. It was passed April 12.

After debate, *Ordered*, That the report of the grand committee be recommitted.[1]

On the report of a committee, consisting of Mr. [William Samuel] Johnson, Mr. [Gunning] Bedford and Mr. [David] Howell, to whom was referred a report of the Secretary of Congress, respecting a bust of General Washington, procured in pursuance of the act of the 7 August, 1783:

That it appearing to them, the Bust of General Washington is now finished and ready to be delivered, and that Mr. Wright the artist who executed the same is about to remove from the city of Philadelphia your committee are of opinion that some immediate disposition should be made of the said Bust: therefore submit the following resolve.

Resolved, That his excellency the president draw an order on the treasury of the United States, in favour of Joseph Wright, for two hundred and thirty three dollars and one third of a dollar, it being the sum charged by him, for modelling and compleating the said Bust.

That the Secretary of Congress take Order for causing the said Bust to be brought to this city, and wait the further order of Congress."[2]

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[1] According to Committee Book No. 190, the Grand Committee of January 17, which brought in this report, was this day renewed as Mr. [Abiel] Foster, Mr. [Rufus] King, Mr. [David] Howell, Mr. [Joseph Platt] Cook, Mr. [Melancton] Smith, Mr. [John] Beatty, Mr. [Joseph] Gardner, Mr. [John] Vining, Mr. [William] Hindman, Mr. [James] Monroe, Mr. [Hugh] Williamson, Mr. [Charles] Pinckney and Mr. [William] Houstoun and to it the report was recommitted. See *ante*, March 31, and *post*, April 14.

[2] This report, in the writing of Gunning Bedford, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 19, VI, folio 471.

On this day, as the indorsement states, was read a letter of March 29 from Jabez Bowen, Deputy Governor of Rhode Island, concerning the uttering and passing of false final settlement notes. It is in No. 64, folio 548.

On this day, according to the indorsement, was read a petition from Captain Seth Harding, dated April 5, for relief. It was referred to Mr. [William] Ellery, Mr. [William Samuel] Johnson and Mr. [David] Howell. It is in No. 42, III, folio 475. Report was rendered April 11.

The Committee consisting of &c. [Mr. Rufus King, Mr. David Howell and Mr. William Ellery] to whom was referred a motion from M^{r} King for the exclusion of Involuntary servitude in the States described in the Resolve of Congress of the 23^{d} day of April, 1784, submit the following Resolve—

Resolved, That after the year 1800 of the christian Era there shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in any of the states described in the Resolve of Congress of the 23^{d} day of April 1784, otherwise than in punishment of crimes whereof the party shall have been personally guilty, and that this Regulation shall be an Article of Compact, and remain a fundamental principle of the constitutions between the 13 original states, and each of the states described in the said Resolve of Congress of the 23^{d} day of April 1784, any implication or construction of the said Resolve to the contrary notwithstanding—Provided always, that upon the escape of any person into any of the states described in the said Resolve of Congress of the 23^{d} Day of Apl. 1784, from whom labor or service is lawfully claimed in any one of the 13 orig^{l} states, such fugitive may be lawfully reclaimed, and carried back to the person claiming his labor or service as aforesaid this Resolve notwithstanding.[1]

THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 1785.

Congress assembled. Present, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Virginia, and South Carolina; and from North Carolina, Mr. [Hugh] Williamson.

On motion of Mr. [Melancton] Smith,

Resolved, That the determination of the question which was yesterday postponed by the state of Rhode Island, be further postponed till to Morrow.

Congress resumed the Consideration of the report on the motions relative to the western frontiers, and a motion being made by Mr. [David] Howell, seconded by Mr. [John] Beatty, rells of Beef & Pork were not full & badly packed. One Barrell of Biscuit only half full. The Barrell of Wine wanted several Gallons.

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[1] This report, in the writing of Rufus King, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress,* No. 31, folio 329. The indorsement states that it was read on this day and Thursday April 14 assigned for consideration. A printed copy is on folio 331, indorsed by Thomson: "To prevent slavery in the new states. Included in substance in the Ordinance for a temporary government of western territory passed the 13 July, 1787."

Wm. Colbrath.

[No. 54[illegible]6.]

Joseph Brant to the United States Commissioners Regarding the Duplicity of Mr. Kirkland.

Fort Stanwix, 20 Sept., 1784.

Gent., I take this Liberty of addressing you on a subject that may affect the interest of the United States, and the Six nations of Indians of which I am a member. I was at the Council Fire of those Nations on the [illegible] day of August last at Buffaloe & I was then authorized by them with others as Deputies from those respective nations in consequence of a Message from Governor Clinton to meet at this place to adjust and settle some matters with this State, previous to a more general meeting. The same evening I arrived here, Mr. Kirkland came to this place, and informed me that he had a message from you to be forwarded by Mr. Dean to the Six Nations, and requested me to return to Kanonogharie, from whence I that day came. I declined returning that Day — because I was fatigued, and could not consistant with other engagements. I told him at the same time that it was absolutely necessary, that I should be acquainted with the purport of the message, as to render it effectual it appeared to me; it ought to be accompanyed with a message from their deputies here.

The same Evening Governor Clinton arrived. I acquainted him of what had passed on this occasion, and tho' he mentioned that he was not immediately concerned in that business, he very generously offered to give me his assistance in forwarding any communication to the Indians that I might think proper to make to them; whereupon I immediately dispatched a Runner to the Oneydas with a Letter informing them of my sentiments on this subject, and of the propriety of the deputies here being made acquainted with the purport of your message least if it should not be attended with some notification from us to them it might prove abortive. Notwithstanding which it seems the Gentleman charged with it thought proper to proceed, to the Country of the Six Nations without seeing us or communicating the subject of his Errant.

These matters I have thought proper to inform you of; that if any disappointment should take place, it might be imputed to the right cause, and not attributed to the deputies here or the Nations whom they represent incur any blame.

I am, Gent. Your most humble serv't.

[No. 5571.]

Governor Clinton to the New York Delegates in Congress Apprising Them of the Approaching Adjournment of the Legislature.

New York, 11th April, 1785.

Gentlemen, I am informed that the Assembly have passed a Resolution for adjourning on Friday next, and tho' it is uncertain whether it will meet with the Concurrence of the Senate as to that particular Day: yet I have every Reason to believe they will rise (if not before) in the Course of the next Week, at farthest, unless prevented by New Business. I have therefore thought it my Duty to apprize you of this in order that if there are any Matters now before Congress which will call for Legislative Declaration that you may urge the necessity of their being expedited so as that they may come under Consideration at the present Meeting, as after so tedious a Session as the present has been I fear it will be impracticable to convene them again before next Winter.

I have the Honor to be with great Respect, Gentlemen, Your most Obed't. Serv't.

The Hon'ble The Delegates of the State of New York in Congress.

[No. 5573.]

Governor Clinton Receives from the Secretary of Congress a Copy of the Acts for the Protection of the Northwestern Frontier.

Secretary's Office, April 12th, 1785.

Sir, I have the honor of transmitting you the enclosed Acts* of the 1st, 7th and 12th instant relative to the raising a body of Troops, for the protection of the North western frontiers, the defence of the inhabitants against the depredations of the Indians, for preventing unwarrantable intrusions on lands belonging to the United States and to guard the public Stores.

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*Friday, April 1, 1785, Congress took into consideration the report of a committee, to whom were referred sundry motions relative to the western frontiers, and a paragraph thereof relative to the raising of troops being under debate, a motion was made by Mr. Howell seconded by Mr. Beatty, that the same be postponed, in order to take up the following: "That it is necessary, that a body of troops, consisting of non-commissioned officers and privates, be raised to serve for the term of three years, unless sooner discharged, for the protection of the northwestern frontiers, and for guarding public stores, to be raised by the states in the following proportions, viz. N. H. &c

On the question, the paragraphs of the report being postponed, and the motion taken up and amended, a division was called for, and on the question to agree to the first clause as amended,

Resolved, That it is necessary that a body of troops consisting of 700 non-commissioned officers and privates, be raised to serve for the term of three years, unless sooner discharged, for the protection of the northwestern frontiers, to defend the settlers on the land belonging to the United States, from the depredations of the Indians, and to prevent unwarrantable intrusions thereon, and for guarding the public stores.

After debate on the latter clause of the motion,

Ordered, That the further consideration thereof be postponed.

Thursday, April 7, 1785, Congress resumed the consideration of the report on the motions relative to the western frontiers, and a motion being made by Mr. Howell, seconded by Mr. Beatty,

That the 700 non-commissioned officers and privates determined to be necessary, by the act of 1st April, be raised by the following states, in the following proportions:

A motion was made by Mr. Ellery, seconded by Mr. King, to postpone that motion, in order to take up the following:

That it be recommended to the states hereafter named, as most conveniently situated, to furnish forthwith, from their militia, the 700 non-commissioned officers and men, agreed to be raised by the resolution of the 1st April, in the following proportions, viz.

As the United States in Congress Assembled have been pleased by a late Ordinance, of which I enclose a Copy, to make it a part

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And on the question to postpone the purpose aforesaid, the yeas and nays being required by Mr. King, the question was lost.

After further debate the original motion was withdrawn, and thereupon,

On motion of Mr. Ellery, seconded by Mr. King,

Resolved, That it be recommended to the states hereafter named, as most conveniently situated, to furnish forthwith, the 700 non-commissioned officers and men, agreed to be raised by the resolution of 1st April, in the following proportions:

Ordered, That the remainder of the report be committed, and that the committee be instructed to report the states to be called upon, and the proportions to be furnished by them respectively.

Tuesday, April 12, 1785.

On the report of a committee, consisting of Mr. Monroe, Mr. Johnson, Mr. R. R. Livingston, Mr. King, Mr. Beatty, Mr. J. Henry and Mr. Bedford.

Resolved, That non-commissioned officers and privates to be raised by the resolution of the seventh day of the present month April, be furnished by the states hereinafter mentioned, in the following proportions:

Connecticut	165	
New York	165	
New Jersey	110	
Pennsylvania	260	
		700

That the following commissioned officers be furnished by the said states, for the said troops, in the following proportions:

One lieutenant colonel from Pennsylvania.

Two majors, one from Connecticut, and one from New York, each to command a company.

Eight captains, ten lieutenants, one to act as adjutant, one as quarter-master, and one as pay-master. Ten ensigns, one surgeon and four mates, to be furnished by the said states in proportion to the number of privates which they respectively furnish.

That the pay of the lieutenant colonel be 50 dollars per month; that of the major, 45; captain 35, lieutenant 26; ensign, 20; sergeant 6; corporal, 5; drum, 5; fife, 5; private, 4; surgeon, 45; mate, 30.

That the lieutenants acting as adjutant, quarter-master, and paymaster, shall receive in consideration of the said extra duty, each ten dollars per month.

That each officer and soldier shall receive one month's pay after they are embodied, before their march.

That the secretary of war be directed to form the said troops when raised into one regiment, consisting of eight companies of infantry, and two of artillery, to appoint their places of rendezvous, direct their subsequent operations, and make all other inferior necessary arrangements not herein particularly mentioned, subject to the order of Congress, and of the committee of the states in the recess of Congress; and that the commissioners of the treasury be instructed to furnish on his warrant, the sums necessary for carrying the same into effect.

That the said troops when embodied, on their march, on duty or in garrison, shall be subject to all the rules and regulations formed for the government of the late army, or such other rules as Congress or a committee of the states may form.

That the secretary at war ascertain the necessary clothing and rations proper for the troops, and report the same to Congress.

That the commissioners of the treasury contract for the supply of rations at such places and in such quantities as the secretary at war shall judge necessary.

Journals of Congress, p. 82, 83 vol. 10.

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That the said troops when embodied, on their march, on duty or in garrison, shall be subject to all the rules and regulations formed for the government of the late army, or such other rules as Congress or a committee of the states may form.

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That the commissioners of the treasury contract for the supply of rations at such places and in such quantities as the secretary at war shall judge necessary.

Journals of Congress, p. 82, 83 vol. 10.

of the duty of the Secretary of Congress "to transmit to the several States all Acts, Ordinances, Resolutions and recommendations of Congress, and to correspond with the States for the purpose of receiving Communications from them relative to the execution of the same," I have embraced the earliest opportunity of forwarding the enclosed Acts, and trust your Excellency will favour me with an account of the steps taken by your State for raising the quota assigned, that I may make report thereof conformably to the said Ordinance.

The honor, peace and prosperity of our Nation being objects very near my heart Nothing will give me greater pleasure than frequent opportunities of reporting to Congress the earnest and United endeavours of the several States to promote those great and desireable ends.

I have the honor to be with great respect, Your Excellency's most obedient and most humble Servt.

Chas. Thomson.

His Excellency The Governor of New York.

THE GOVERNOR LAYS THE MATTER BEFORE THE LEGISLATURE.

Gentlemen, By this Message I have the Honor of submitting to your Consideration, Resolutions of the United States in Congress of the 1st, 7th and 12th Instant relative to the raising a Body of Troops in the States therein mentioned for the Protection of the North-Western Frontiers, the defence of the Inhabitants against the depredations of the Indians, for preventing unwarrantable Intrusions on Lands belonging to the United States, and to guard the Public Stores and also of laying before you for your Information an Ordinance of the 31st of March, for the Regulation of the Office of the Secretary of Congress.

Geo: Clinton.

New York 14th April, 1785.

[Nos. 5578-5581-5582.]

Correspondence Relative to Running and Marking the Boundary Line Between the States of New York and Pennsylvania.

New York, 2nd May, 1785.

Sir, An Act having passed at the last meeting of the Legislature for appointing Commissioners on the Part of this State for running and ascertaining the Line of Jurisdiction between this State and Pensylvania in concert with Commissioners appointed for the same Purpose by that State. I take this earliest opportunity of informing you that the Council have appointed you, Simeon Dewitt and James Clinton, Esquires for this service, and which I would fain hope, considering the Importance of the Business and the necessity of its being performed with accuracy, you will not decline if your Health is so far restored as to permit of it, which I most sincerely wish may be the Case. I am not at present able to mention any particular time for the Commencement of this business, as I have not yet received an Answer to a Letter addressed to Governor Dickinson on this Subject but I should suppose it cannot be sooner than the letter End of this or the Beginning of next month.

I am with great Respect & Esteem, Sir, Your most obedient Serv't.

[G. C.]

To Gen. Philip Schuyler.

DAVID RITTENHOUSE TO SIMEON DEWITT.

(Copy)

Philadelphia, 12th May, 1785.

Sir, Some weeks Colo: Porter and myself, were Commissioned by the President and Council to ascertain the Division Line between the States of Pennsylvania and New York in conjunction with such Persons as might be appointed on the part of

Expenditures for Indian Affairs from 21st April to 30th June 1785.

Commissioners for Negociating Treaties with the Indians.

June	24	George R Clarke, Oliver Wolcot & Richard Butler Commissioners, pursuant to Act of Congress of 18th March last	3000. ..	
		Ditto for the Pay of the Officers, Messengers, Interpreters & Artificers, agreeably to Act of Congress of the 15th Inst.	2,000.	
		Ditto for the Purchase of Provisions & Stores for the sd Commissioners their attendants &c agreeably to sd act of Congress	2,000.	
	29	Ditto their Order dated 23d Instant in favor of Peter Ryu, being for 28 Days Pay whilst employed collecting Prisoners made by the Six Nations during the War	28.	
		Ditto their Order in favor Nicholas Fountain for 28 Days pay whilst employed as above	28.	7056.

Provisions & Goods for the Indian Treaties

April	2	James O'Hara being a balance due him for supplying Provisions for the Indian Treaties, and for the detachment under the Command of Colo Harmer at Fort McIntosh from 9th Septemr 1784 to 31 March 1785	3,742. 82.	
		Ditto being the Balance in Settlement due him for the Purchase of Goods & their transportation to the Treaties held at Fort Stanwix & McIntosh	2125. 6.	
May	3	John Vincent an Indian pursuant to an Act of Congress of 8th April last	100.	
June	4	Jacob [illegible] an Indian of the Mantauk's tribe being to encourage him to instruct the Indians, pursuant to Act of Congress of the 3d Instant	100.	
		John Allen late Superintendant of Indian Affairs Eastern Department, being for sundry Disbursemts and Supplies furnished from 18 July 1783 to 3 June 1784.	1,486. 58.	
	14	Ditto for his Pay from 3d June 1783 to the 1st May 1784. ...	870. 45.	
	25	James O'Hara for the purchase of Goods for the Indian Treaties pursuant to Act of Congress of the 18th March last	3,000.	
	30	Ditto for the purchase of Ditto	3,000.	14,425. 11.
			Dollars	21,481. 11

[illegible]

No. 8.
Expenditures for Indian
Affairs from 21st April to 30th
June 1755 —

Copy

The Objects of Enquiry under the Act of Parliament for the Relief of the American Loyalists, being Services as well as Losses, I have thought proper to give this Detail to be subjoined to the Schedule of my Confiscated Property and Effects the Loss of Emoluments upon the Decease, because I have felt Confident that on such Instances from which I may appear to claim Merit to myself, I may safely appeal to the Testimony of the General Officers under whom I have served.

From the year 1755 and during the continuance of that War I was continually employed in the Indian Department in Military Service, and was in the Action of Lake George when Baron Dieskau was defeated & taken, at the Attack upon the Lines at Ticonderoga, on the Expedition against Cataraqui and the taking of Niagara, Oswegatchie & Montreal.

In September when the Officers of the Indian Department were principally discharged Sir Wm Johnson thought proper to continue me on account of my Knowledge of the Indian Languages, and after Sir William's Death I served as Deputy to Col. Guy Johnson the acting Superintendent.

Upon the Breaking out of the Rebellion in 1775 Col. Johnson found it impossible to do his duty in the Place of his Residence & having every Reason to apprehend that Schemes would be formed against his personal safety, the Indian Department being viewed with a jealous Eye by the Americans, and to be [illegible] whether the Savages would have [illegible] before his going to England in the Autumn of that year he appointed me his Deputy and I was ordered by Sir Guy Carleton to Niagara where I arrived the 17 Nov. 1775. The part that the Indians would take was at that time very doubtful. Many Rebel Emissaries had found their way among them and [illegible] of the Interest of [illegible]

In 1760 when the Officers of the Indian Departmt were principally dismissed Sir Wm Johnson thought proper to continue me on account of my Knowledge of the Indian Languages and after Sir Williams Death I still remained under his Successor Col. Guy Johnson the acting Superintendent.

Upon the Revolt of the Colonies in 1775 Col. Johnson found it impossible to do his Duty in the Place of his Residence & having every Reason to apprehend that Schemes were to be formed against his personal Safety, the Indian Department being viewed with a jealous Eye by the Americans went to Canada whither I accompanied him. Before his going to England in the Autumn of that year he appointed me his Deputy and I was ordered by Sir Guy Carleton to Niagara where I arrived the 17 Novr 1775. The Part that the Indians would take was at that time very doubtful. Many Rebel Emissaries had found their way among them and during the Absence of Col. Johnson and myself were using every [illegible] Art to seduce them from their Attachment to the King. In which I found upon my arrival they had been but too successful, and using my Endeavours to reclaim their alienated affections. Lieut. Col. Caldwell [illegible] I believe Sir G. C. will do me the Justice to say that his Expectations at that Period went no further than to keep them in a State of Neutrality. His Instructions to me were directed to that object. I had several Conferences with the Chiefs & Warriors of the Six Nations, and was very [illegible] to point out to them the [illegible] and Danger of the Rebels, and the pernicious Consequences of their joining the Kings Enemies. In this I was successful and the Rebel Emissaries were obliged to quit the Indian Country.

In 1776, when the Rebels had invaded Canada I sent a party of Indians properly officered to join Major Foster against a Body of the Congress Troops who had taken Post at the Cedars, the Event of which is well known. The remaining part of that year I employed, in inculcating upon the Minds of the Six Nations the necessity of their being unanimous, urging that it was not only their duty to the King their Father, but their Interest, to attach themselves to his Cause. In this I happily succeeded and at my Instance they sent proper Messengers to their Western Brethren to prevail upon them to follow their Example. I call this a happy Event, because I am confident that without it the upper Posts would not have been preserved, or at least protected from the Insults of the Enemy.

In the Year 1777 when every Effort had failed either by Remonstrance or Force to put an End to the Rebellion, and when it was evident that the Indians would no longer remain Neutral, & if they were not engaged on the Side of Government that they would join the Rebels which many of them had already done, the Plan was first formed to employ them. Accordingly I was ordered by Genl Carleton to collect the Six Nations and such Whites as could be got to act in Conjunction with them in the Expedition under Brigr Genl St Leger against Fort Stanwix. I did accordingly convene the Indians of the Six Nations, and then for the first time gave them the War Kettle which they accepted and engaged in the Expedition. I and the Indians were there under Sir J. Johnson at the defeat of Genl Herkimer at Oriskine with a Reinforcement for the Relief of the Fort.

Soon after this Sir Guy Carleton did me the Honor to appoint me Major Commandant of a Corps of Rangers to act in conjunction with the Indians and I was ordered to Niagara where I was employed the Remainder of that Campaign.

In April 1778 the Chiefs of the Six Nations came in a large

[illegible]
they would join the Rebels which many of them had already done, the Plan was first formed to employ them Offensively and I was ordered by Genl Carleton to collect the Six Nations and such Whites as I could and to take the Command of them on the Expedition under Brigr Genl St Leger against Fort Stanwix. I did accordingly convene the Indians of the Six Nations and then for the first time gave them the War Belt which they accepted and engaged in the Expedition. I had the Honor to command them under Sir J. Johnson at the defeat of Genl Herkimer at Oriskene with a Reinforcement for the Relief of the Fort.

Soon after this Sir Guy Carleton did me the Honor to appoint me Major Commandant of a Corps of Rangers to act in Conjunction with the Indians and I was ordered to Niagara where I soon completed it to the number of eight Companies.

In April 1778 the Chiefs of the Six Nations received a Message from Colo. Dennison & Judge Jenkins in Behalf of the Settlement of Westmoreland (Wyoming) inviting them to a Council. The Indians having experienced the Treachery of these people (who had the Autumn before imprisoned three of their Chiefs who had been sent for under Pretence of a friendly Conference) applied to the Commanding Officer at Niagara, who gave Orders accordingly for me to accompany them, that they might go in such Force as would prevent a like breach of Faith, & they might at the same time be enabled thereby to procure the Release of those who were in Confinement. Upon our Approach the first Act of Hostility committed was upon two of my Indians & a Ranger who were killed by a Scouting Party about four Miles from the Settlement.

Upon my arrival in the Settlement I sent word to the Commanding Officer Colonel Dennison, that the Indians were come agreeably

to

his Invitation if we were ready to speak with him either as Friends or Enemies. His answer was that he was determined to fight, and that he would have all our Scalps before Night. The Attempt was made, and ended in the total defeat of the Rebel Troops. I ordered all their Forts to the number of twelve to be destroyed, but Forty Fort in which the greatest Part of their Women and Children were was saved & not in the smallest degree molested or plundered. I have been the more particular on this Head, to contradict the infamous and false Reports which were so industriously propagated to the Prejudice of my Party as to have found their way into some of the English Prints.

Upon my return to the Indian Country, I employed the remaining Part of the Summer in sending out Parties for the Purpose of collecting Provisions for the Indians and Rangers under my Command.

In 1779 I was ordered by his Excellency Genl Haldimand into the Indian Country to oppose an Army of Rebels, who were on their march to annoy & cut off the Indian Settlements, which I twice attempted but from their Superiority of Force (they having as many thousands as we had hundreds) I could effect nothing more, than in some degree to retard their Progress.

In 1780 I was honored by General Haldimand with the appointment of Lieut. Colo. Commandant, and the Indians & Rangers under my Command were employed in harassing the Frontiers, in order to favor the Progress of our Southern Army which was then expected up the Hudson's River.

In 1779 I was ordered by his Excellency Genl. Haldimand into the Indian Country to oppose a Body of Rebels, who were on their march to annoy & cut off the Indian Settlements, which I never attempted but from their Superiority of Force (they having as many thousands as I had hundreds) I could effect nothing more, than in some degree to retard their Progress.

In 1780 I was honored by General Haldimand with the appointment of Lieut. Col. Commandant, and the Indians & Rangers under my command were employed in harrassing the Frontiers, in order to favor the Progress of our Southern Army which was then expected up the Hudson's River——

In 1781 I commanded a party of Indians & Rangers on an Expedition under the Command of Sir John Johnson Bart. against Schoharie Mohawk River, Stone Arabia, Canajoharie &c. and in the Year 1782 I was employed in sending out Parties against the Frontiers of the Rebel States, in order as much as possible to distress the Enemy.

When the Treaty of Peace was made known to the Indians in 1783, it was received by them with great disgust, as they conceived they had been abandoned by the King their Father. It was no easy Task to remove this Impression, at the same time that His Majesty of Reconciling them to the Measure was undertaken and in this I laboured with indefatigable Industry.

Upon the whole my Employment and Exertions during the Rebellion have been confined to the Indian Department a Service which I trust upon Enquiry will be found to be by no means less arduous, less hazardous or less interested than any in the Course of the War. Of the Importance of the Object I had no right to judge either as a Subject or a Soldier, in both Capacities I submitted this to the Consideration of my Superiors whose Ideas of the Policy and even the necessity of conciliating the affections of the Indians and of steadily attaching them to the British Government will best appear from the immense pains which have been taken for that purpose from the first settlement of the Colonies. For the Proofs of my Conduct and of the Fidelity & Alacrity with which I have performed the Trust [illegible] the Crown I have received I beg leave to appeal to His Excellency Sir Guy Carleton under whom I served until the year 1778 and to His Excellency General Haldimand under whom I served from that Period until the Close of the War and also to the different Commanding Officers of the Garrison of Niagara.

[illegible]

which I have from Time to Time kept the Indians there secured. I beg leave now to appeal to His Excellency Sir Guy Carleton in whose time I served until the year 1778 and to His Excellency General Haldimand under whom I served from that Period until the Close of the War as also to the different Commanding Officers of the Garrison of Niagara.

Narrative of Lt. Col. Butler
[illegible]
London [illegible] May 1785

FRIDAY, MAY 6, 1785.

Congress assembled. Present, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina; and from the State of Rhode Island, Mr. [William] Ellery, and from Georgia, Mr. [William] Houstoun.

The committee, consisting of Mr. [Rufus] King, Mr. [David] Howell and Mr. [James] Monroe, to whom was referred a memorial of Augustus Provost, praying a compensation for sundry tracts of Land granted by the Six Nations of Indians to the late Col. Croghan, and which are now said to fall within the bounds of Pennsylvania, submit the following report:

That in the year 1768, the Six Nations of Indians at a public Treaty, made a deed of Cession to the King of Great Britain, of an extensive Country lying north-eastward of the river Ohio; that at the same time, the same Indians made another deed to the said King, for the use of the late Col. Croghan, of three tracts of land, containing about 200,000 acres, with a covenant therein, that, in case the said lands should fall within the Charter limits of Pennsylvania, the same might be made up to Col. Croghan from the lands then Ceded to the said King; that in the deed of Cession to the Crown, the lands ceded were charged to compensate the aforesaid Col. Croghan upon the contingency aforesaid.

The memorialist now represents, that the lands Ceded for the use of Col. Croghan, in fact fall within the limits of Pennsylvania, and prays the United States to compensate

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printed form used in the discussion. A copy of this broadside is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 30, folio 279, and is annotated by Thomson and another, with the amendments; as amended the report was passed June 15.

Also, according to Committee Book No. 190, a letter from Adams, Franklin and Jefferson, dated February 9, 1785, was this day referred to the Secretary for Foreign Affairs for translations of the enclosures numbered 1, 2, 4, 6 and 7. A printed edict was among the enclosures. Jay's letter reporting the above translations is in No. 80, I, folio 157. See *ante*, May 2.

him as the lawful representative of the late Col. Croghan, for the loss of the same.

Upon this state of facts, the Committee observe, that granting that the deed of Cession of the Six Nations of Indians, charged the lands Ceded thereby to the Crown, to compensate the late Col. Croghan as aforesaid, and granting the event to have taken place upon which such compensation should be made; yet the Committee conceive the charge to be a real and not a personal one: and as particular States claim the whole of the Territory ceded as aforesaid to the Crown, the obligation to compensate the representative of the late Col. Croghan, if it exists, must lie upon the particular States thus claiming the lands charged, and not upon the United States;[1] Whereupon,

Resolved, That Congress agree to the said report.

Congress proceeded in the third reading of the Ordinance for ascertaining the mode of disposing of Lands in the Western Territory. A motion was made by Mr. [William] Grayson, seconded by Mr. [James] Monroe, to amend the Ordinance by striking out the following clause:

"The Surveyors shall proceed to divide the said Territory into Townships of six miles square, by lines running due north and south, and others crossing these at right angles, unless where the boundaries of the late Indian purchases may render the same impracticable, and then they shall depart from this rule no farther than such particular circumstances may require," and in its stead insert, "The Surveyors shall proceed to divide the said Territory into Townships of six miles square, by lines running due north and south, and others crossing these at right angles, and the said Townships into right angled parallelograms, of the dimensions of two miles by six miles, in the direction of North and South." And at the end of the clause [for subdividing townships,] to insert, "And the surveyors in running the external lines of the Townships and right angled parallelograms, shall mark corners at the distance of every half mile, for the lots and half lots, always taking care that the corners for the Townships shall be designated in a different manner from those of the lots; and those of the lots in a different manner from those of the half lots," so that it read, "The plats of the townships respectively shall be marked by subdivisions into lots of one mile square, or 640 acres, in the same direction as the external lines, and numbered from 1 to 36, always beginning the succeeding range of the lots with the number next to that with which the preceding one concluded. And where, from the causes before mentioned, only a part of a Township shall be surveyed, the lots protracted thereon, shall bear the same numbers as if the Townships had been entire; and these lots shall be subdivided into lots of 320 acres, and the Surveyors in running the external lines of the Townships, and right angled parallelograms, shall mark corners at the distance of every half mile for the lots and half lots, always taking care that the corners for the Townships shall be designated in a different manner from those of the lots; and those of the lots in a different manner from those of the half lots."[1]

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[1] This report, in the writing of Rufus King, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 19, V, folio 215. Prevost's memorial is in No. 41, VIII, folio 205.

And on the question to agree to this amendment, the yeas and nays being required by Mr. [William] Grayson,

New Hampshire,		
Mr. Foster,	no	no
Long,	no	
Massachusetts,		
Mr. Holten,	no	no
King,	no	
Rhode Island,		
Mr. Ellery,	no	*
New York,		
Mr. Lawrance,	no	no
Smith,	no	
Pennsylvania,		
Mr. Gardner,	no	no
W. Henry,	no	
Maryland,		
Mr. McHenry,	no	ay
J. Henry,	ay	
Hindman,	ay	
Virginia,		
Mr. Monroe,	ay	ay
Lee,	ay	
Grayson,	ay	
North Carolina,		
Mr. Williamson,	no	no
Sitgreaves,	no	
South Carolina,		
Mr. Pinckney,	ay	*
Georgia,		
Mr. Houstoun,	ay	*

So the question was lost.

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[1] This motion, in the writing of William Grayson, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 36, III, folio 45. The phrase is brackets in the Journal was added by Charles Thomson.

The Committee [Mr. Hugh Williamson, Mr. Jacob Read and Mr. John Francis Mercer] to whom was referred a Letter from the superintendant of Finance of the 13th of April [1784] inclosing sundry Papers respecting the Claims of Francis Cazeau submit the following Report

Whereas it is represented to Congress that Francis Cazeau in his Account with the U. S. charges them with three Batteaux loaded with goods to the amount of 5404 Dlrs though those very Batteaux were sent out by him towards the British army under a Pass from Genl Burgoyne and were captured while under such Pass by an American Party after resistance and the Loss of Blood. That he also charges the U. S. with 10633 Dlrs for wheat said to be purchased for the Use of the American Army; though under very suspicious Circumstances

Resolved, That the sundry Resolves of Congress of the 18th of March last respecting money to be advanced to Francis Cazeau and the Charges to be admitted in the settlement of his Accounts be repealed and that the further Considerations of the Claims of the said Cazeau be deferred till Congress shall have adopted some general plan for the settlemt of Claims from Canada.[1]

[2]MONDAY, MAY 9, 1785.

Five states only attending; namely, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, New York, Maryland and Virginia; and from Rhode Island, Mr. Ellery; from Pennsylvania, Mr. W[illiam] Henry, and from North Carolina, Mr. [Hugh] Williamson; the president adjourned Congress to 10 o'clock to-morrow.[3]

TUESDAY, MAY 10, 1785.

Five states only attending; namely, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, New York, Maryland and Virginia; and from the state of Rhode Island, Mr. [William] Ellery; from Penn-

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[1] This report, in the writing of Hugh Williamson, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, 19, I, 553. According to indorsement it was read this day. Robert Morris' letter is in No. 137, III, folio 507. See *post*, May 20.

[2] At this point Thomson resumes the entries in the Journal.

[3] On this day, according to Committee Book No. 190, a report was rendered upon the memorial of William Barton. See *ante*, May 2, and *post*, May 11.

To The Honorable Continental Congress

Gentlemen & Brothers

I take this opportunity to inform you, that we have published the Articles of peace made between you & us, to Our Chiefs & Warriors, And we have all agreed to become the fourteenth State, & keep you by the Hand as Brothers if you mean by the Agreement, the Commissioners made at Fort Stanwix.

We hear of Disturbance arising between you & Great Britain, but our Minds are perfectly disposed to peace, in Evidence of which, I remind you of the Lands Voluntarily granted by us at Oswego &c. &c. as a sure pledge of our lasting Friendship which I hope may be endless.

The Confinement to my Bed during Winter is the only Reason the Prisoners have not been returned, now shall endeavour with all speed to collect and return them, which will be in a short time, supposing Thirty Days.

I intend settling on one of the Bran

of the Allegany, to prevent (if poſsible) all Mischief that may Accidentally arise,

I Wish my Friend General Butler with a Deputy from Virginia could meet me at Fort Pit with all speed to settle a peace; that we may again Hunt & Trade with Our Ancient Friends without Molestation. I intend to take a few prisoners with me belonging there

But not having Permiſsion to paſs & repaſs, & doubting a Friendly Acceptance Shall wait a Meſsenger a Little up the River.

I Am sorry to think [illegible]itors were appointed our Advocates at Fort [illegible]ix an Obstacle which I hope may be remov[illegible] as we count Ourſelves a people Capable of Speaking & Acting for Ourſelves, & the Lands granted were Ours & not theirs

Our Warriors are Jealous We have recd. some private Reward for the Lands granted therefore We hope our Brothers the Commiſsioners at the next meeting will publish We have not

Tanawanda
May ye 20th. 85.

Your Friend & Brother
Kyentwachcate or
John O'bail

Letter John Obail
an Indian

Read 23 June 1785

Referred to
Mr Hardy
Mr Howell
Mr J Henry
Mr Pettit
Mr Grayson

At a Council held at Detroit [illegible] Novr 18th 17[illegible]

By the Chiefs of the Wyandots & Shawanese, Delawares &
Cherokees

Present

James Girty
Two other Americans }

Captn Wolf. A Shawanese spoke, says Some time ago in our Council Elder had gone a hunting, seeing the white People settling on many parts of their Country, that he enquired by what he had heard from Mr [illegible] that they had no right, nor were encouraged by their Great Men to settle upon that side the Ohio × settled by their Forefathers, and that the speeches delivered to them by [illegible] Mr [illegible] it was as by Genl Clark were, that if the people who were so venturing upon us got hurt, there would be no Notice taken of it, as they would bring it upon themselves, that now when he went out he had met some of those people Virginians and took one of them Prisoner to Answer to the Chiefs, and now delivers him to them; to examine and treat him as they think fit

× As the Line between them was upon the other side the Ohio

Delivered John Crawford to the Chiefs

Captn Johnny a Shawanese Chief spoke on behalf of the three first mentioned Nations likewise for all the Nations in that Country. — Brethern Virginians — You know the other day we were hunting, now desired us to be Quiet, we are so, you requested us to observe the Councils of our Forefathers and Act According to their Customs —

We People of one Colour are united so that we make but one Man, that has but one Heart, and one Mind.

You know Brethern Virginians you kindled a Council Fire at Ft Stanwix, the six Nations led us by the Hand to it, but we heard nothing there that was good from you, Afterwards you kindled another at Beaver Creek; there too Men spoke we heard there nothing good from you, You told us all the country was yours, You have kindled two Council Fires, at the first you know how you have treated our Brethren the six Nations there and detained them prisoners, You have now behaved in the same Manner at Fort McIntosh. presently you will kindle another Council Fire; but if you do it any place near us, we will not go to it nor listen to you, but if you kindle it at Detroit where our Forefathers did, then we will think you are for some good, then our Brethren who stand at our Backs will hear you. But we see your Intention, you are drawing Close to us, and so near our Bedsides, that we can almost hear the Noise of your Axes, felling our Trees and settling our Country ……………………………

According to the Lines settled by our Forefathers, the Boundary is the Ohio River, but you are Coming on the Ground given us by the Great Spirit. we wish you to be strong and keep your people on that side the River, we have no Objection to carry on Trade with your Traders, provided they do not attempt to settle in Our Country, but it is now clear to us your Design is to take our country from us. We assure you that you will find all the people of our Colour in this Island strong, unanimous, and determined to act as one Man in defence of it, therefore be strong & keep your people within Bounds, or we shall take up a Rod and whip them back to your side of the Ohio, It is now incumbent on you, to Restrain your People and listen to us, Otherwise the Consequence of what may happen hereafter will be your Fault ....

You are always Calling to us for your Flesh and Blood, no doubt you are fond of them, We have them by the hand to deliver to you, if you listen to us, on the Contrary if you do not, you will never see them at any Other time, What we three Nations say to you are the Sentiments of the Six Nations and that of those to the Setting of the Sun

What we have said we are determined to do without the Council or Advice of our Father, who formerly Assisted us when Requisite. ....

We have Called in Simon Girty that our words should be fully explained to you before him ....

This foolish Young man who was taken in our Country, encroaching upon us, we deliver to you, that he may Return home & prevent others doing what he has done, his Companions were sent back when taken ....

Detroit 31st May 1785

Charles McCormick
Comt. & Clerk Indn. Dept.

(C of Cdn)

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Council held at Waketameki
18th May by the Shawanese,
Mingoes, Delawares, & Cherokees

131

May 17

~~2. That with the other powers it be stipulated that each party shall have a right to carry their own produce manufactures.~~

2. That with the other powers a direct and similar intercourse be stipulated with each respectively.

3. That it be propos'd to all the said powers though not indispensibly requir'd, that the same duties be paid upon the goods, wares and merchandize of each other in the ports of the U. S. and theirs respectively ad valorem.[1]

FRIDAY, JUNE 3, 1785.

Congress assembled. Present, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, South Carolina and Georgia; and from New Hampshire, Mr. [Abiel] Foster; from Rhode Island, Mr. [William] Ellery, and from North Carolina, Mr. [Richard Dobbs] Spaight.

On the report of a committee, consisting of Mr. [Rufus] King, Mr. [David] Howell and Mr. [Charles] Pinckney,

Resolved, That the board of treasury be, and hereby are authorized and directed to sell for specie or public securities, at public or private sale, the frigate Alliance, with her tackle and appurtenances, (excepting her guns and other military appointments, which the Secretary at War is hereby directed to receive into his custody) the board of treasury giving previous notice of the sale in the news papers of such states as they may judge proper.

On the question to agree to this, the yeas and nays being required by Mr. [Charles] Pinckney,

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[1] This report, in the writing of James Monroe, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 29, folio 341. According to the indorsement it was read this day and held as secret: "But Congress order a written copy to be made for each State and delivered to the delegates. Thursday June 9 assigned for Consideration." See *ante*, April 4, for Monroe's motion on this subject.

Massachusetts,		
Mr. Holten,	ay	ay
King,	ay	
Rhode Island,		
Mr. Ellery,	ay	*
Connecticut,		
Mr. Cook,	ay	ay
Johnson,	ay	
New York,		
Mr. Lawrance,	ay	ay
Smith,	ay	
New Jersey,		
Mr. Dick,	ay	div.
Stewart,	no	
Pennsylvania,		
Mr. Jackson,	ay	ay
Pettit,	ay	
Maryland,		
Mr. McHenry,	ay	ay
J. Henry,	ay	
Virginia,		
Mr. Lee	ay	ay
Grayson,	ay	
North Carolina,		
Mr. Spaight,	no	*
South Carolina,		
Mr. Pinckney,	no	ay
Ramsay,	ay	
Kean,	ay	
Georgia,		
Mr. Houstoun,	ay	ay
Habersham,	no	
Baldwin,	ay	

So it was resolved in the affirmative.

A motion having been made by Mr. [Charles] Pinckney, seconded by Mr. [John] Lawrance,

That a copy of the treaty entered into by the Commissioners of the United States, with the Sachems and Warriors of the Six Nations of Indians, at fort Stanwix, on the 22 day of October, 1784, in the words following:

"Articles of a treaty concluded at fort Stanwix, on the twenty-second day of October, one thousand seven hundred and eighty four, between Oliver Wolcott, Richart Butler and Arthur Lee, Commissioners plenipotentiary from the United States in Congress assembled, on the one part, and the Sachems and Warriors of the Six Nations on the other. The United States of America give peace to the Senecas, Mohawks, Onondagas and Cayugas, and receive them into their protection upon the following Conditions: Article 1st Six Hostages shall be immediately delivered to the commissioners by the said Nations, to remain in possession of the United States, till all the prisoners, white and black, which were taken by the said Senecas, Mohawks, Onondagas and Cayugas, or by any of them in the late war, from among the people of the United States, shall be delivered up. Art. 2d The Oneida and Tuscarora Nations shall be secured in the possession of the lands on which they are settled. Art. 3^d A line shall be drawn, beginning at the mouth of a creek about 4 miles east of Niagara, called Oyonwayea or Johnson's landing place, upon the lake named by the Indians Oswego, and by us Ontario, from thence southerly in a direction always four miles east of the carrying path, between lake Erie and Ontario, to the mouth of Tehoseroron or Buffaloe creek on lake Erie, thence south to the north boundary of the State of Pennsylvania, thence west to the end of the said north boundary, thence south along the west boundary of the said State, to the River Ohio, the said line from the mouth of the Oyonwayea to the Ohio, shall be the western boundary of the lands of the Six Nations, so that the Six Nations shall and do yield to the United States all claims to the country west of the said boundary, and then they shall be secured in the peaceful possession of the lands they inhabit east and north of the same, reserving only six miles square round the fort of Oswego, to the United States, for the support of the same. Art. 4^th The Commissioners of the United States, in consideration of the present circumstances of the Six Nations, and in execution of the humane and liberal views of the United States upon the signing of the above articles, will order goods to be delivered to the said Six Nations for their use and comfort."

And a copy of the treaty entered into by the said Commissioners with the Sachems and Warriors of the Wyandot, Delaware, Chippawas, and Ottawas Indians at fort McIntosh, on the 21st day of January, 1785, in the words following:

Articles of a treaty concluded at fort McIntosh, the 21st day of January, 1785, between the Commissioners plenipotentiary of the United States of America, of the one part, and Sachems and Warriors of the Wiandot, Delaware, Chippawa and Ottawa Nations, of the other. The Commissioners plenipotentiary of the United States in Congress assembled, give peace to the Wiandot, Delaware, Chippawa and Ottawa Nations of Indians, on the following conditions; Article 1^st Three chiefs, one from among the Wiandot, and two [from among the Delaware, Nations, shall be delivered up to the Commissioners of the United States, to be by them retained till all the prisoners, white and black, taken by the said nations or any of them, shall be restored. Article 2^d The said Indian Nations do acknowledge themselves and all their tribes to be under the protection of the United

States, and of no other Sovereign whatsoever. Article 3^d The boundary line between the United States and the Wiandot and Delaware Nations, shall begin at the mouth of the river Cayahoga, and run thence up the said river to the portage, between that and the Tuscarawas branch of Meskingum; then down the said branch to the forks at the crossing place above fort Lawrence; then westerly to the portage of the Big Miame, which runs into the Ohio, at the mouth of which branch the fort stood, which was taken by the French in 1752, then along the said portage to the Great Miame, or Ome river, and down the southeast side of the same to its mouth, thence along the south shore of lake Erie, to the mouth of Cayahoga where it began. Article 4th The United States allot all the lands contained within the said lines to the Wiandot and Delaware Nations, to live and to hunt on, and to such of the Ottawa Nation as now live thereon; saving and reserving for the establishment of trading posts, six miles square at the mouth of Miame or Ome river, and the same at the portage on that branch of the Big Miame, which runs into the Ohio, and the same on the lake of Sanduske, where the fort formerly stood, and also two miles square on each side of the lower rapids of Sanduske river, which posts and the lands annexed to them, shall be to the use and under the government of the United States. Article 5th If any citizen of the United States or other person not being an Indian, shall attempt to settle on any of the lands allotted to the Wiandot and Delaware Nations in this treaty, except on the lands reserved to the United States in the preceding Article, such person shall forfeit the protection of the United States, and the Indians may punish him as they please. Article 6th The Indians, who sign this treaty, as well in behalf of all their tribes as of themselves, do acknowledge the lands East, South and West of the lines described in the third article, so far as the said Indians formerly claimed the same, to belong to the United States; and none of their tribes shall presume to settle upon the same, or any part of it. Article 7th The post of Detroit, with a district beginning at the mouth of the river Rosine, on the west end of lake Erie, and running west six miles up the southern bank of the said river, thence northerly and always six miles west of the strait, till it strikes the lake St. Clair, shall be also reserved to the sole use of the United States. Article 8th In the same manner the post of Michillimackinac with its dependencies, and 12 miles square about the same, shall be reserved to the use of the United States. Article 9th If any Indian or Indians, shall commit a robbery or murder on any citizen of the United States, the tribe to which such offenders may belong, shall be bound to deliver them up at the nearest post, to be punished according to the ordinances of the United States. Article 10th The Commissioners of the United States in pursuance of the humane and liberal views of Congress, upon this treaty's being signed, will direct goods to be distributed among the different tribes for their use and comfort. Separate Article. It is agreed that the Delaware chiefs Kelelamand or Colonel Henry, Hengue, Pushees, or the Big Cat, Wicocalind, or Captain White Eyes, who took up the hatchet for the United States, and their families, shall be received into the Delaware nation, in the same situation and rank as before the war, and enjoy their due portions of the lands given to the Wiandot and Delaware Nations, in this treaty, as fully as if they had not taken part with America, or as any other person or persons in the said Nations;"

Be published and transmitted to the executives of the several states; and that it be declared, [that no purchases, which have been or hereafter may be made from the Indians, at any treaties held or to be held with them, of their right to soil within the limits of any state, can, ought or shall be considered as interfering with the right of any such state to the jurisdiction or soil].[1]

A motion was made by Mr. [William] Houstoun, seconded by Mr. [William] Ellery, that the foregoing motion be committed; and when the question was about to be put, the yeas and nays being required by Mr. [Charles] Pinckney, the determination thereof was postponed to next day by the State of Georgia.

BOARD OF TREASURY, *June 3d 1785.*

SIR: We do ourselves the honor of transmitting to Congress a letter received by yesterdays Post, from the Treasurer of the United

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[1] This motion, in the writing of Charles Pinckney, with the words bracketed in the writing of Melancton Smith, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 36, III, folio 1. The indorsement states: "Motion of Mr. [Charles] Pinckney and Mr. [Abiel] Foster and of Mr. [John] Lawrence and Mr. [Melancton] Smith consolidated by consent. Mr. [Charles] Pinckney and Mr. [John] Lawrance consenting to stand movers of the consolidated Motion which was moved by Mr. [William] Houstoun to be committed June 3, 1785."

States at Phil^a.—We are constrained to observe, that this Board cannot comply with the ordinance of Congress relative to the Payment of Public monies, whilst the Treasurer is at Phil^a. From unavoidable necessity we have hitherto been obliged to enter into the detail of payments and do the duty of the Treasurer.—We therefore must request Congress to relieve us from a situation disagreable to ourselves and incompatible with the nature of our Office, by appointing some proper character to do the duty of the Treasurer's Department till he can remove his office from Philadelphia to this City.—[1]

[SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 1785.[2]]

WAR OFFICE, *June 3^d 1785.*

SIR: On the memorial of Major John Adams referred to the Secretary at War I beg leave to observe

That Major Adams was appointed commissary of prisoners in the beginning of the year 1779 and did duty at the post of Elizabeth town until the close of the late war.

That it fully appears from the enclosed letters and certificates of the honorable colonel Beathy, general Dayton and others late officers in the American army, that Major Adams during his continuance in office, must have unavoidably expended large sums of his own money in subsisting the prisoners of war both American and British passing and repassing through that post, as there was no issuing commissary regularly established there or any person duly authorized by Congress or the Commander in Chief to supply them with the common necessaries of life.

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[1] This letter, signed by Samuel Osgood and Walter Livingston, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 140, II, folio 5. According to the indorsement it was read this day and referred to Mr. [Charles] Pettit, Mr. [Samuel] Holten and Mr. [Rufus] King.

On this day, according to indorsement, was read a report from the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, pointing out the mode of delivering a letter from the King of France, by the Chargé d'Affaires of that Nation. It was referred back to the Secretary to take order. Jay's letter is in No. 80, I, folio 209, and was entered, with the order referring it back to him, in Resolve Book No. 123, by Benjamin Bankson.

Also, on this day, according to Committee Book No. 191, the committee report on the petition of Thomas Walcott was recommitted. Committee Book No. 190 gives this committee of recommitment as Mr. [John] Lawrance, Mr. [William] Ellery and Mr. [Abiel] Foster and shows that the report on Henry Purcell's memorial was also referred to this committee. See *ante*, June 1, and *post*, July 8.

Also, according to Committee Book No. 190, Seth John Cuthbert was nominated by Mr. [William] Houstoun for Commissioner of the Board of Treasury.

[2] The Journals show no session of Congress on June 4, yet the record in the Committee Books and from indorsements shows the transaction of matters herewith recorded.

It further appears by the unquestionable testimony he has produced that his expences have been considerably increased by his humane attention to the wretched condition of the prisoners in supplying them with shoes, stockings &ca. that they might return home in a manner more comfortable to their friends and near connexions. The charges which Major Adams now exhibits and affirms to, for monies borrowed & expended on Account of the public amount to £457..16..11 Pennsylvania currency which sum he alledges is far short of what he has actually expended for the use of the prisoners.

From this representation of Major Adams' case and sufferings; Congress will be pleased to judge of the merits of his claims and of the justice of allowing him a part if not the whole of his account. It is an unfortunate circumstance that the peculiar situation of the Major added to the multiplicity of business he had to transact at the post prevented his procuring the necessary vouchers for the monies which he actually disbursed in behalf of the United States.[1]

I have the Honor to be etc.

Jos. Carleton.

The Committee [consisting of Mr. Charles Pinckney, Mr. David Howell and Mr. John Lawrance] to whom was recommitted a report on a memorial dated New York February 4, 1785, and signed Donald Campbell, beg leave to submit the following report.

Your Committee find that the accounts of the Memorialist as Quarter Master General for the Northern department were settled by the Comptroller of the Treasury on the 24th of November, 1781, and a balance of 5,595$^{35}/_{90}$ dollars was found due to the Memorialist, that the sum of 1,595$^{35}/_{90}$ dollars, in part of said balance was paid to the Memorialist in specie on the 11 of said month and that he received a certificate for the remainder being 4,000 dollars dated Dec^{r} 8, 1781 bearing interest from the 3^{d} day of April preceding.

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[1] This report is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 151, folio 63. It is indorsed: "Read June 4, 1785 June 7, 1785 Referred to Mr. [Samuel] Dick, Mr. [David] Howell and Mr. [William] Grayson."

Your Committee observe that the Memorialist complains of injustice done him in said settlement to the amount of $941\frac{43}{90}$ dollars the Comptroller having allowed him only 2½ per cent commissions on certain goods by him purchased and delivered for the use of the northern army instead of 5 per cent by him charged, And only 6 per cent: interest instead of 7 per cent by him charged on the balance due to the memorialist on the 3^d day of July, 1776.

The Memorialist has further represented to your Committee that he never has received any compensation for the British half pay of a Lieutenant which he sacrificed on entering into the American service, that he has not received any other payment from the United States during the war than the aforesaid sum of $1,595\frac{35}{90}$ dollars, and that he has a demand on the public on an unliquidated account to the amount of upwards of 20,000 dollars, and moreover that he is extremely pressed for money, and greatly embarrassed by not receiving payment from the public, and that unless some releif can be extended to him he will incur the danger of the total ruin of his fortune and family;

Whereupon your Committee submit the following resolutions,

Resolved, That the board of Treasury take order for paying to Donald Campbell Esquire some time Quarter Master General in the Northern department the sum of 4,000 dollars being the balance of his account as settled by the Comptroller of the 14 of Nov^r 1781—And take up and cancel the registered certificate therefor dated Dec^r 8, 1781, and bearing interest from April 3^d preceding.

Resolved, That that part of the memorial which contains a claim to 5 per cent commission on certain goods by the Memorialist purchased and delivered for the use of the northern army, And that part which contains a claim to 7 per cent interest on the balance due to the Memorialist on the 3^d day of July, 1776 be referred to the Board of Treasury to report.[1]

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[1] This report, in the writing of David Howell, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 19, I, folio 499. The indorsement states that it was read June 4, and the papers of Campbell referred to the Board of Treasury July 10, 1786.

On June 4, according to the indorsement on John Halsted's memorials (No. 42, III, folios 461–463) the report of March 28 on these memorials was passed and the papers transmitted to the Board of Treasury, June 12.

On June 4, as the indorsement states, was read a letter of May 29, from Governor George Clinton, announcing the compliance of New York with the requisition for a quota of troops for the Western frontiers. It is in No. 67, II, folio 493.

Resolved that a copy of the treaty entered into by the Comrs of the US with the Sachems & Warriors of the Six ~~nations~~ of Indians at Fort Stanwix on the 22d day of October 1784 in the words following (here insert the treaty) and a copy of the treaty entered into ~~by~~ of the ~~said~~ commissioners with the sachems and warriors of the Wiandot Delaware, Chippawas and Ottawas Indians at Fort McKintosh on the 22d day of January 1785 in the words following (here insert the treaty) be published & transmitted to the executives of the several States

~~Provided~~ And that it be declared

That no purchases which have been or may hereafter be made from the Indians at any Treaties held or to be held with them, of their ~~claim~~ right to soil within the limits of any State, can ought or shall ~~to~~ be considered as interfering with the ~~claim~~ right of any such state to the Jurisdiction or soil —

and ought or shall

Motions of Mr Partridge
& Mr Foster & of Mr
Lawrence & Mr Smith
consolidated by consent
of Mr Partridge &
Mr Lawrence consenting
to stand in order of the
consolidated motion
which was moved by
Mr Jackson to be
committed
June 3. 1790

MONDAY, JUNE 6, 1785.

Congress assembled. Present, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, South Carolina and Georgia; and from the state of New Hampshire, Mr. [Abiel] Foster, and from North Carolina, Mr. [Richard Dobbs] Spaight.

On the question for commitment, the determination of which was postponed by the state of Georgia, and on which the yeas and nays were required by Mr. [Charles] Pinckney,

New Hampshire,		
Mr. Foster,	no	*
Massachusetts,		
Mr. Holten,	no	no
King,	no	
Rhode Island,		
Mr. Ellery,	ay	div.
Howell,	no	
Connecticut,		
Mr. Cook,	no	no
Johnson,	no	
New York,		
Mr. Lawrance,	no	no
Haring,	no	
Smith,	no	
New Jersey,		
Mr. Dick,	no	div.
Stewart,	ay	
Pennsylvania,		
Mr. Jackson,	no	div.
Pettit,	ay	
Maryland,		
Mr. McHenry,	ay	ay
J. Henry,	ay	
Hindman,	no	
Virginia,		
Mr. Monroe,	no	no
Lee,	no	
Grayson,	no	
North Carolina,		
Mr. Spaight,	no	*
South Carolina,		
Mr. Pinckney,	no	no
Kean,	no	
Georgia,		
Mr. Houstoun,	ay	ay
Habersham,	ay	
Baldwin,	ay	

So the question was lost.

Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee, which was under debate on the 31st May last; and on the question,

Resolved, That the paragraph, on which the question was lost, be re-considered.

On the question to agree to the said paragraph, the yeas and nays being required by Mr. [Charles] Pinckney,

New Hampshire,		
Mr. Foster,	ay	*
Massachusetts,		
Mr. Holten,	ay	ay
King,	ay	
Rhode Island,		
Mr. Ellery,	ay	ay
Howell,	ay	
Connecticut,		
Mr. Cook,	ay	ay
Johnson,	ay	
New York,		
Mr. R. R. Livingston,	no	div.
Lawrance,	ay	
Haring,	no	
Smith,	ay	
New Jersey,		
Mr. Dick,	ay	ay
Stewart,	ay	
Pennsylvania,		
Mr. Jackson,	ay	ay
Pettit,	ay	
Maryland,		
Mr. McHenry,	ay	ay
J. Henry,	ay	
Hindman,	ay	
Virginia,		
Mr. Monroe,	ay	ay
Lee,	ay	
Grayson,	ay	
South Carolina,		
Mr. Pinckney,	no	ay
Ramsay,	ay	
Kean,	ay	
Georgia,		
Mr. Houstoun,	no	no
Habersham,	no	
Baldwin,	no	

So it was *Resolved,* That the commissioners instructed to hold a treaty under the resolutions of the 18 of March last, with the western tribes of Indians, at post St. Vincent, on the 20 day of June, for the purpose of obtaining from them a cession of lands, be, and they are hereby authorized and directed, to avail themselves of the disposition of the Indians and the funds committed to their charge, to make such cession as extensive and liberal as possible.[1]

BOARD OF TREASURY, *June 6th 1785.*

The Board of Treasury to whom was referred the petition of John Allan Esq. late Superintendant of Indian affairs for the eastern department, Report.

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[1] On this day, as the indorsement states, was read a letter of May 3 from William Livingston, Governor of New Jersey, informing that the state had not arranged to furnish its quota of men for western frontier service. It is in No. 68, folio 645.

That in the opinion of the Board, the Commission held by John Allan Esq. late Superintendant of Indian affairs for the eastern department, under the authority of Congress, can only be considered as a civil commission, and therefore that his claim for the emoluments granted to officers in the military line of the United States cannot be admitted.

With respect to the claims made by the Petitioner for his wages as Superintendant of Indian affairs from the 3d of June, 1783, till his dismission, and that the sum due on the certificate granted to him under the administration of the late Superintendant of finance, on the 4th June, 1783, should be discharged. The Board considering the pretensions of Mr Allan, as founded on the same basis with other civil officers of the United States submit to the consideration of Congress the following Resolve,

June 13, passed

That the sum of eight hundred and seventy dollars 45/90 be paid to John Allan late Superintendent of Indian affairs for the Eastern department being the amount of his salary from the 3d June, 1783, till the 1st May, 1784, the time he received intelligence of his dismission from service.

Postponed 13 June; 17 June assigned

That the Registers certificate given to John Allan the 4th June, 1783, for three thousand four hundred and ninety four dollars being the balance due him for past services to that period be paid and cancelled out of the requisition for the year 1784.

Samuel Osgood
Walter Livingston[1]

[That three thousand four hundred and ninety four dollars be paid to J Allan out of the requisition for the year 1784 in full of the balance due to him on the 4th June, 1783, for his services to that time and that the Register's certificate given for that balance be taken up and cancelled.]

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[1] This report is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 138, 1, folio 75. The part within brackets is in the writing of Charles Thomson. See *post*, September 29, 1785. Allan's petition is in No. 42, I, folio 79. See *ante*, April 21.

June 6: The following committees were appointed: Of the Week: Mr. [John] Habersham, Mr. [Abraham] Baldwin and Mr. [John] Kean.

Mr. [Rufus] King, Mr. [James] McHenry, Mr. [James] Monroe, Mr. [Charles] Pettit and Mr. [William Samuel] Johnson, on the petition of the Trustees and Fellows of the College in Providence. The committee reported September 28.

Committee Book No. 190.

Also, according to Committee Book No. 190, on this day the letter from J[ohn] Carter to Mr. D[avid] Howell respecting "Americans detained on board british

TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 1785.

Congress assembled. Present as yesterday.

On the report of a committee, consisting of Mr. [William] Ellery, Mr. [James] Monroe, Mr. [Jacob] Read, Mr. [Hugh] Williamson and Mr. [Richard Dobbs] Spaight, to whom were referred sundry applications from Canadian Refugees,

Resolved, That the commissioner for settling the account of the state of New York with the United States, be authorized and directed to examine the Accounts of such Canadian refugees as have furnished the late Armies of these States with any sort of supplies, and report thereon to Congress:

That the said Commissioner cause the foregoing resolution to be published in Canada, and in such of the states in the Union as he may judge proper, to the end, that such Canadian refugees may be duly informed thereof:

That the papers of Canadian refugees who have applied to Congress for a settlement of their Accounts, be returned to them, on their application, by the Secretary of Congress:

That the committee be discharged of the petition of Mr. Jollibois, Congress having, on the 15 April, 1784, resolved on his case:

That Mr. L'Eclise have leave to withdraw his petition.[1]

ships of war"; a letter of March 27, 1785, "from His Most Christian Majesty announcing the birth of a Son, the Duke of Normandy" and the "Convention between his Most Christian Majesty and the United States respecting functions and prerogatives of Consuls, vice consuls, agents and commissaries" were referred to the Secretary for Foreign Affairs for reports. Reports were rendered on Carter's letter June 9; on letter from King of France June 14; and on the Consular Convention on June 23.

Carter's letter, dated April 19, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress* No. 78, VI, folio 283.

The King of France's letter, with the Secretary for Foreign Affairs' translation, is in C. C. Miscellany, Ac. 2807.

The Consular Convention, dated July 29, 1784, and signed and sealed by Vergennes and Franklin, is in No. 47, folio 219. A printed "Scheme of a convention" varying as to the introductory paragraph from the manuscript on folio 219 is on folio 261.

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[1] See *ante*, February 11.

Proceedings of the Commissioners for Indian Affairs, commencing the 17th of June 1785.

Western Treaty.

New-York June 17. 1785.

George Rogers Clark }
Oliver Walcott & } present
Richard Butler }

They appoint Alexander Campbell Secretary, and allow him three dollars a day.

July 29th. 1785. – at Carlisle.

Present George R. Clark
Richard Butler.

They agreed to allow John Boggs Esqr. their principal messenger, 3⅔ dollars a day & 24/90ths of a dollar a day for his riding horse.

And 2⅔ dollars a day to each of his two assistants – and $\frac{24}{90}$ths of a dollar to each for his riding horse.

Nov. 14. 1785. At the mouth of the Great Miami.

"Some persons from the ſouth ſide of the Ohio having a day or two before ſtolen from the encampment ſome horses belonging to a principal man of the Wiandot nation, who had acted as a guide and companion to the meſſengers in their tour thro' the woods, and was at that time under the immediate protection of the Commiſſioners; they judg'd it neceſſary to ſend a circular letter to the civil and military officers of the ſettlement of Kentuckey, respecting the affair" — which was done.

Decr. 16. The Commiſſioners sent Samuel Montgomery & Daniel Elliot to Limestone, where they heard were the ſtolen horses. — and Jany. 2d. They returned & reported "that they had proceeded to Limestone to obtain a restoration of the horſes ſtolen from the Indians, which they had been able but partly to effect, owing to the countenance which was given there to theft."

in Upper Canada } (27)
1793.

Land at Niagara ceded by the Six Nations to the British, in 1764.

In a conversation with Col.o John Butler, Dy Agent of Indian Affairs, at Niagara, in May 1793 – B. Randolph – Genl. Chapin & T. Pickering being present – he said that a strip of land about 4 miles wide, running from Lake Ontario to a creek about 5 miles above Fort Schlosser, had been ceded by the Six Nations to the King of Great Britain, and that there was in the public office of the Superintendant, or some other office, the Deed of Seſsion. The line began at Johnson's Landing, about 4 miles east of Niagara Fort.

Turning accidentally over the Universal Magazine for June 1764 – page 332. we saw an article of intelligence mentioning this ceſsion.

☞ Quere, If the land thus ceded to the King (by which the Indian title was extinguished) does not, by the treaty of peace of 1783, become the property of the U States? to the exclusion of Mr. Morris, who has the preemption right to the other lands in the Seneka country.

.4r

British Indian Department.

Govr. Simcoe informed us that £30,000. Sterling was annually granted to support the Indian Department in Canada.

Officers of the Department. –

Sir John Johnson, Superintendant General,
Salary

N.B. Colo. Butler told us he would give Sir John ten thousand pounds for his emoluments, derived from his Office of S. G.

One Deputy Superintendant for Lower Canada
One ditto – (Colo. Butler) at Niagara.
One ditto – (Colo. Alexr. McKee) at Detroit.
Salary of each £200. Sterling.

{ Wm. Johnston Interpreter at Niagara a dollar p day
{ Sheehan Issuer of the clothing &c.

{ Capt. Elliot deputy to Colo. McKee
{ Simon Girty interpreter to Do. – a dollar p day.

I understood from Govr. Simcoe that occasional inspectors of the issues of clothing & other annual presents were appointed & consult all the time. – But I remember to have heard it ſuggested that these inſpectors (officers of the regular troops) often practiſed collusions with the agents, ſharing in the misapplication of the presents. — The Agents, down to the Deputy's Deputy, it ſeems have grown rich.

Feeding of the Indians.

When the Indians aſsemble at any British post to attend or to go to a treaty they are ſupplied with proviſions. What the daily ration is I have not yet aſcertained, the answers to my questions on this head being indefinite. The Six Nation Indians have said the allowance was scanty.

Transporting the Indians.

They are carried acroſs the lakes gratis, in the Kings veſsels, whenever they are going on public buſineſs. Neither do they pay any thing at the ferries. — A large Schooner on lake Ontario, brought from Kingston (Fort Frontenac) 280 of the Canada Indians to Niagara, to proceed thence to the treaty at Sanduſky.

Indian Presents.

A Mr. Smith who is at present employed by Col. McKee, & is to accompany Capt. Elliot to the Rapids of the Miami, with provisions told me, yesterday (July 20th) that the annual presents were lessening from year to year.

Chippawa Indians.

Capt. Caldwell, of Detroit river, who during the late war had a command in the British Indian department, says the Chippawas extend thro' all the Northern country, by the lakes to a very great distance, and consist of twenty thousand souls. — He added, that the Chippawas and Ottawas never kill their prisoners of war. The Wyandots he says are the boldest in action, & thence always lose more men than any of the other nations who are with them. (N.B. Find Capt. Caldwell's character not such as to give authenticity to any information from him.

Detroit.

Tho' the French possessed this district probably 150 years ago & until the peace of 1763, yet they together with the English Settlers are not now estimated at more than 400 families: and they have paid ſo little attention to farming, that there is a neceſsity of bringing flour from Lower Canada, and pork from Ireland, to feed a ſingle regiment of British troops ſtationed here and at Mi-chilimackinac. And the Indian Villages, particularly of the Hurons (or Wyandots) remain within from 15 to 20 miles of Detroit. — ~~the Indians in their primitive condition~~

Summer Heat at Detroit

July 23. Captain Munsey, of the British troops, says that in the laſt 10 days, the Thermometer, at Detroit, in the ſhade, has ſtood repeatedly at 102 degrees — and in the ſun, at 117.

Population of the Western District of Upper Canada.

Mr. Abbot of Detroit (a long resident there) estimates all the white families on the Western ſide of Detroit River, at 400. He says there a few families on the ſtrait between Lake St. Clair & Lake Huron; a few more families at the Island of Michilimakinac (commonly by the people in Upper Canada called *Makinac*). The whole country, as far east as Long Point in Lake Erie, is denominated the Western District, and contains about 5000 ſouls; according to the opinion of Mr. Abbot & some others from Detroit.

Once a year the people engaged in the Indian trade (under the direction of the *North West Company*) meet at Michilimakinac. They aim at meeting in June: but contrary winds and accidents delay their meeting, ſometimes till July, or August.

About 3000 persons, Canadians, (called Engagés) are employed. One half are going up from

Montreal, by the Great River Ottawa (which empties into the St. Lawrence a little above Montreal) to Michilimakinac; and the other half returning from the western waters and countries, to the ſame poſt.

French Families.

Very ſmall improvements have been made by these people. Their husbandry is in a wretched condition. Such of them as have stocks of cattle, appear not to know how to reap ~~the~~ greatest advantage from them. Some that keep a dozen or 20 cows, scarcely make butter for themſelves; and the French butter, when they have a ſurplus, is ſo bad, that no English people can eat it.

I have been credibly informed, that ſome of the French farmers have had their barns ſo encumbered with dung, that they have taken them down, & ſet them up elſewhere, rather than undertake to remove the dung. Yet the ſoil of the country does not appear very fertile.

The whole country west of Ontario, North of Lake Erie, & east of Detroit River, Lake St Clair &c. is wonderfully flat: and all accounts agree in pronouncing it a drowned tract of land, of which only the borders of the lakes and rivers admit of cultivation.

I have ſuppoſed that in proceſs of time, settlements might be extended, the country drained by canals, and these rendered (as in Holland) the highways of communication.

A great deal of the country westward of Detroit river seems to like that to the eastward of it.

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Niagara (Navy Hall) June 25. 1793.

On a careful statement of monies received by me for public use — and expended, to this day — the account stands thus —

		Dollars
April 30.	Took with me from Philadelphia	450.00
	Rec.d of B. Randolph at sundry times	77.43
June	Borrowed of Mr. Dean - - -	1.50
June 25.	Due to Peirce Duffy — advanced for me	2.50
		531.43

June 25.	Expended to this day, as state.t	449.14
May 27.	Advanced to Jasper Parrish state.t	44.67
June —	Advanced to Capt. Scott, a half Joe	8. —
"	to Jacob Lindley to buy a barrel of flour for Capt. Hendrick —	8. —
	repaid Mr Hartshorn 2 guineas towards 10 dollars he advanced to one of the boatmen —	9.33
Aug.t 27. he did repay me — but it will now go [illegible] private expen[ses]	Overpaid Berry, at Genesee, as per statement — which I hope he will repay me.	5.79
	Paid for repairing my watch	1.25
	Due from B. Randolph, for bearskin &c	4. —
		530.18
	Deficient — by trifling expenses not noted, or other accidents	1.25
		531.43

These Lines is to Certify, I. Coll^o. Louis, hunted at Lake S^t. Francois,
And there was two Americans came to me, And brought me a letter
from Gen^l. Baley, to carry to Cognowager In Montreal & In this
Letter saide my Brothers In request Of all the seven Nations Dont
Take up any Armes against the Americans, because I want to
Fight Against the Brittish, And I. Coll^o. Louis left all my
Hunt In the woods Lake S^t. Francois & Carried this saide Letter
To Cognowager, & deliver'd it to a Chief who was John Stasey, and
he Opened the saide Letter, & was Likely to be hung for it, And I.
Coll^o. Louis, returned to lake S^t. Francois to get my furrs & Skins ——
And On my Arrivel, Gen^l. Baley, received me well, & he took
Me to Boston & to Cambridge, to see Gen^l. Washington, & the
Gen^l. Asked me, how would be the best way to keep the seven
Nations from tak^g up Armes Against the Americans, & I. Coll^o.
Louis arrived at that time Att Cognowager, & all the Nations
Was there, & the English Commanders, of the saide Nations, Who was
Sir Guy Johnson, Coll^o. Clause, & Coll^o. Buttler, who was for me
To take up the Tommy Hawk In the grand Councel, Against the
Americans. & they asked me what News, I made them An Answer
that I did not Know, but they saide I must have Known the News
By the Letter that I carried to Cognowager — I then told them that
I was for the Americans And a few days Afterwards, A Battle
Was faught, by the Army of Gen^l. Schyler, at fort S^t. Johns,
And there I Lost Two Mohawks, three Cognowagers, & One chief
Of the Connisodagers, And there [illegible] An a Merican to me, & saide
there was Eight Hundred men of the Americans, Of the Other
Side of Chambly — . And Coll^o. Allen & Capt^n. Levingston, Asked
for all the seven Nations to be Brothers with the seven Nations
& likewise with the Americans & I. Coll^o. Louis, held a Councel
Of war with all the Seven Nations, I told them In the
Grand Councel that the Americans would be glad if they would
[illegible] Ear to What I saide In there Behalf — And I told
them ——

(Carried Over)

That John Vancſon chief of the Hughrans & all the seve
Nations Would Give Ear to what I saide, & I Coll.o Louis
Came Out of the grand Councel & told them all that we must
be with the Americans & Joine them Only & I told the America
that was with me that what we Indians Could do - would be
All for the best, & they Asked me for Two Indians And I got Two
Indians who was the grand Chief of Cognowager Joseph
Contethyee & John Vancſon Chiefs, Of the Hughrons Of
Surrett In the Province of Quebec, & the grand Chief sent
Us two to see Coll.o Allen At Chambly & On Our Arrivel
We saw Only Coll.o Allen & Captn. Leivingston Out of the
Eight Hundred men that was at the river Chambly & Coll
Allen sent the Chief Joseph Vancſon, & the grand Ch
Joseph Contethyee, to Cognowager to tell all the Other Chiefs
Know What we had seen - & we told them we came to be,
All In One Councel Together, & they whanted to Know for
What, & we told that we saw An Army - but there was
Only Coll.e Allen & Captn. Leivingston, After we returne
To the river Hughron, Coll.e Allen desired us to go with
Him to the Iſle of Noire with thirteen Canadians & On Our
Arrivel we saw Two Battows full of People - And Coll.o Alle
Putt his Handkerchief at the End of his gun As a Signal
& After the saide Battows came On Shoire then I John
Vancſon Chief of the Hughrons & the Grand Chief Contethya
Arrived On the Isle of Noire & I had a large Coller of whampum
As a Parrole & sundry Branches of Whampum Likewise for
To Give to Genl. Schyler Saying In these Words it is for the
Good of your Giving Ear to us my Brothers & my Head
Heart & Body is for you all my Brothers Only Lisen
To us - for Our Young, Heart Head & body is for the Americans
Only I John Vancſon Chief of the Hughrons, &c

Gave to Genl. Schyler a few branches of Whampum beeds to say
Lissing to my Ears, that you may Understand what we
have to do, my Brothers you will) we Expect that you will
Except of Our Duty, all for your behalf towards You all
And here is Our Coller to lett you see that we are for You
Americans Only, & we Submitt to the last point of Death
By the fource of our Grand Coller of war, & Genl. Schyler
Said to me, My Brother I dont think there is Any bad
In receiving your coller, & Genl. Schyler was Sick & after
three days time Genl. Schyler went of Genl. Montgomery
Took his place, (I John Van Gon chief of the Hughron
And the grand Chief Contethyee of cognowager we Went
From the Isle Noire with the Americans Army to St. Johns.
Safe — we past the Night, the next Morning Genl. Montgomery
Asked us Indians, wether we would be willing to go On a
Scouting Party, Against fort St. Johns, And the Grand
Chief Joseph Contethyee, Obayed Genl. Montgomery,
And was In the fort of St. Johns In the Mitts of all the
English, And I came away to the Camps of Genl. Montgomery
And I told Genl. Montgomery, that I could not see Any Indians
In the fort, but that we was ready to go Our Selves Against
them, & from there we of with Twelve hundred men to
St. Terraze, & Captn. Menose Arrieved with us Indians
On the roade St. Johns, we mett three Hundred British
Troopes with Two Peices Of Cannon And Genl. Mongomery

Saide to me John Vancson chief Of the Haghrons If I Had taken your Advice I would have had fort St. Johns But Genl. Montgomery taken the Advice of Captn. Menore was the reason of his not taken the fort Genl. Montgomery On the 28 October 1775 Asked Captn. Vancson chief of the Haghrons to take a Letter to Genl. Arnold, And I Transported it to him On point Levy In the Province Of Quebec, & Genl. Arnold gave me Two Letters, for Genl. Montgomery, & In bringing the Two Letters I was taken a Prisoner In Quebec At Point St. Louis, & Genl. Montgomery saide, that My Brother was made a Prisoner of, Genl. Mongomery Wrote to Genl. Carlonton As this you have a Prisoner Belonging to the Americans, John Vancson chief Of the Haghrons, & Genl. Montgomery saide what Ever Artifice he may be of, use him well, for I was a Prisoner Once my self, but Captn. John Vancson Chief, was three weeks In Irons to the Knowledge of Genl. Montgomery, & the time I was In Prison Genl. Carlontton Lett me out of the Prison, & saide to me you have no rite to fight Either against the Brittish nor Americans butt go & be Quiett I John Vancson Chief I took my Liberty & went to Genl. Montgomery At Point Of Tramble

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je Certifie que le nommé jul
Vivant Est un [illegible] est
point Coupable aux [illegible] de
[illegible] qui sa trouvé faits au
jour daujourdhui et qui plus
est il se trouve actuelement
en prison le tout Causé par
son Camarade qui la retenu
in Cette ville lui voyent de
Largent afin de lui faire
Voyager lui promettant les
Choses de jour en jour jusque
au moment quil na plus Eu
le Son apres avoir servi
le Congres aussi fidellement
Come jai fait Serai je
Reduit daler en prison pour
dettes si les ames Charitable
nont pas pitie de nous

Capt Vincent an Indian
in priſon for debt
praying to be relieved.
June 24 1705

filed

The Comm.rs of Indian Affairs and Associates having inspected the Accounts of Monies — expended as Gratuities for Services performed by different Indians at the late Treaty at Fort Herkemer I do hereby Certify that the same Ammounts to One hundred and Sixty Eight Pounds Eight Shillings and Eight Pence — Given under my Hand this 1st July 1785. —

G Clinton

10374
(6)

Governor Clintons
Voucher

£160.0.0

No. 07

interlined between the 8th. and 9th. Lines – I certify the aforegoing to be a true Copy of the original Indian Deed being examined and compared therewith this 5th. day of May 1785, By me Robt Harpur D. Secrety of the State

To all to whom these presents shall come or may concern: Know Ye, that we Peter Ojistarare, Johan Jury Tewahangaraghkon, Rawhistoni, Paul Tewasqwazeahtow, John Skanondonagh of the Wolf Tribe, Peter Oncyanda Joseph Kanaghsaterhon, Cornelius Okonyota, John Onontiyo, Nicholas Sagoyatohare of the Turtle Tribe, Lodowick Haghsaweta, Paul Kanyatashayea and Peter Agwirentongwas of the Bear Tribe – Sachems and Chief Warriors of the Oneyda and Tuscarora Nations by and with the Advice and Consent and in the Presence of the said Nations at a public Treaty held at Fort Herkemer in the County of Montgomery with his Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor of the State of New York and the other Commiſsioners of Indian Affairs of the said State for the Consideration of the sum of Eleven Thousand Five hundred Dollars in Goods & Money to us in hand paid at and before the Ensealing and delivery of these presents, the Receipt whereof We Do hereby acknowledge Have Given, Granted, Bargained and sold and by these presents Do fully freely and absolutely Grant, Bargain and sell unto the People of the State of New York all that certain Tract of Land situated in the said State and on the West ſide of the Line commonly called the Line of Property established at a Treaty held at Fort Stanwix in 1768, and on the North side of the Pensylvania Line Beginning at the Mouth of the Unadilla or Tianaderha River where the ſame empties into the Susquehanna River thence up the ſaid

Unadilla or Tianaderha River ten Miles measured on a Straight Line, thence due West to the Chenengo River, thence Southerly down the said Chenengo River to where it empties into the said Susquehanna River & to the said Line called the Line of Property, thence along the said Line to the place of Beginning so as to comprehend all the Lands belonging to us the said Oneida and Tuscarora Nations lying South of the said Line to be run from the said Unadilla or Tianaderha River to the Chenengo River and North of the Division Line between this State and the State of Pensylvania together with all Ways, Waters, Water Courses, Rivers, Rivulets, Creeks and Streams of Water and also all Mines and Minerals which are or may be found thereon with the Rights Liberties, Priviledges Heriditaments and Appurtenances thereto belonging or in any wise appertaining and the Reversion and Reversions, Remainder and Remainders and Profits thereof, and also all the Estate Right Title Interest Possession Claim and Demand whatsoever which we have or can claim of in and to the same with the appurtenances: To Have and to Hold the said Tract of Land and Premisses abovementioned with the appurtenances unto the said People of the State of New York to their only proper Use Benefit and Behoof for ever, so that neither We nor any of Us, nor any of our Heirs or Successors, or any others Claiming by from or under us shall can or may make any Claim Challenge or Demand of in and to the same, but that our own immediate Brethren the White People of the State of New-York shall and may for ever hereafter peaceably and quietly have hold, possess and enjoy the same: In Testimony whereof we have hereunto set our Hands and Seals in public Council at Fort Herkimer aforesaid, the twenty eighth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand seven Hundred and eighty five; and in the Ninth year of the Independence of the said State. + + + + + + + + + +

Peter his + mark Ojistarare L.S. Johan Jury his + mark Tewakangataghkon L.S. Rawhistoni his + mark L.S. Paul his mark Tewasgwadeghkon L.S. John his mark Skanondonagh L.S. Peter his mark Oneyanha L.S. Joseph his + mark Kanaghsaterhon L.S. Cornelius his mark Okonyota L.S. John his + make Onontiyo L.S. Nicholas — his + mark Sagoyatohare L.S. Lodowick his mark Kaghsaweta L.S. Paul his mark Kanyatashayea L.S. Peter his mark agwirontongwas L.S. + + + +

Sealed and Delivered, NB the word own between the fourteenth & fifteenth Lines was enterlined before Sealing and Delivery, In the Presence of us, Saml. Kirkland, Peter Ryckman, James Dean, Simeon DeWitt, Hendrick Aupaumut, Peter Pahquonnoppat, David Fowler, James his X mark Root_ **Be it Remembred** that on the first day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty five personally appeared before me Jeremiah Lansingh one of the Masters in Chance [illegible] State of New York Peter Ryckman

And Simeon De Witt two of the subscribing Witnesses who being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God declared that the names of Peter Ryckman and Simeon De Witt hereto subscribed as Witnesses are of their respective Hand writing, & that they were present and saw the Indians, Parties to this Deed, and who are Sachems and Chief Warriors of the Oneyda and Tuscarora Nations, sign ~~and~~ Seal ~~and~~ execute and deliver this Instrument as and for their Voluntary Act and for the Uses and purposes therein mentioned (excepting Cornelius & Ohoniota and Paul Tewasgwadeghkon) and that they also saw the other Witnesses sign their names as Witnesses, and I having Examined the same and finding no Erazures Obliterations or Interlineations (except such as are noted do allow

Ex. the same to be Recorded Jerh. Lansingh

The aforegoing Indian Deed is a true Copy of the Original ~~thereof~~ Examined and Compared with the said original this 7th. day of July 1785 By me (in page 148 between the fourteenth and fifteenth lines the word "And" being interlined, and in this page 150 in line the Ninth the word "and" next before and after the word Seal is obliterated) Robt Harpur D. Secry

At a Treaty held at Fort Schuyler formerly called Fort Stanwix in the State of New York by His Excellency Ge Clinton Governor of the said State, and William Floyd, L'Hommedieu, Richard Varick, Samuel Jones, Egb Benson and Peter Gansevoort Junior Commissioners

Wood-Creek July 11th 1785

Sir,

The Onondagoes have, the Week past, in a formal Speech, recogniſed the Oneida Tribe, as head of the Six late confederated Nations, and submited to their direction — The Oneidas eſteem this so auſpicious an event, that they have desired me to communicate the same to Congreſs ——

I have the honor to be,

with Sentiments of the higheſt reſpect

Your Excellency's

most Obedt

humble Servant

James Dean

Letter July 11. 1785

James Dean

Oneidas head of 6 Nations

read 8 Aug.

At a council held at Fort Pitt by colonel Harmar, with Gioshuta, Cientwaky, (or the cornplanter) and Hockushakwego (or Allface) three chiefs of the six nations, at their request

July 12th 1785

Cornplanter speaks.

Brothers we wipe our eyes clean that we may see our brothers in council and that what we may say may clear the stoppage that's in our brothers the Americans throat and go down and settle in their hearts; and brothers your bed which is all bloody I clear away clean that you may rest easy

(A string of wampum)

All face speaks

Brothers it was the great king our father who provoked us to all the mischief we have done, but now we take no advice from him and wish to sit in council with the Americans as we formerly did

Brothers we were acquainted with a fire that was kindled at Fort McIntosh but a great many of our young men were a hunting at that time — We had a great council at Fort Stanwix but our young men who were a hunting was neither at Fort Stanwix nor at Fort McIntosh and the reason of your flesh and blood not all coming in as soon as you expected was owing to those men of ours being absent. — You told us we should live in peace on the lands you allowed us. Now brothers we wish every thing that was done at those councils to be strictly attended to

Brothers here is the articles of the treaty signed at Fort Stanwix

Fort Stanwix in our care you may see by this that we are grea men, representing the six nations, and here is one prisoner that we deliver up to you and whenever we find more they shall be delivered in the same manner.

(string of wampum)

Gioshuta Speaks.

Brothers we thank God for having the pleasure to sit in council this day with our brothers the Americans

Brothers you may reflect on us for the past trouble we have occasioned but you must blame the great king and we are sorry we did not take advice from the thirteen brothers but we hope you wont think of any thing that is past

Here is the belt that was delivered us at Fort Pitt I now take it in my hand to let you see I am sincere, we see every thing you told us is come to pass and what you tell us now or in future we'll attend to - We the six nations are as strong as ever

Brothers this time of day I am speaking is good and I hope you will listen, I hope the Thirteen Fires will hear what I say as well as the brothers present

Brothers consider the council fire was always kind here and it was me occasioned it to be removed

Brothers the reason I wish the Thirteen Fires shoul hear what I say now is because I was the man who had the fire removed from Fort Pitt now I wish it brought back to Fort Pitt

Brothers do listen, consider you thirteen fires of the speech delivered at Fort Stanwix

Brothers it was the great King who gave you all our country. Brothers as I know the King gave you this country we would all be glad how soon you could divide it that we may all know our parts: we know your speeches were all good that you said you would not cheat us of our lands we believe you

(a Belt of wampum)

Cornplanter speaks

Brothers the thirteen fires you may think what you please but I look up to God for every thing I do, and hope to do every thing for the best: it is hard with me I was a chief man at Fort Stanwix and my people blame me much; for the English have told our people that the great king never sold our lands to the thirteen fires but brothers I am still strong and will do every thing that was agreed to at the treaty, Brothers I want one favor which is that you would write to our people informing them for certain that the country belongs to the thirteen fires

I wish I could deliver up to you these papers (the articles of the treaty &c^a^) for they give me a great deal of trouble on account of the lies the English have told our people

(a string of wampum)

Cornplanters Talk –

Pittsburgh July 11th 1785

Colonel Harmar's answer to the speech of Gioshuta Cientwaly (or the Cornplanter) and Hockushak wego (or all Face) three chiefs of the six nations

Brothers I have heard your speech wherein you say that the English have told your people the six nations that the great king never sold your lands to the thirteen fires

Brothers whoever told you so have told you lies the king of England did cede by the treaty all your lands to the Americans and what you heard at the council fire at Fort Stanwix from the great men the commissioners was all truth

Brothers you have been once deceived by the English take care and do not listen again to anything that shall be said to the prejudice of the Americans otherwise the fault will be your own and you will bring yourselves to destruction

Brothers you may for certain inform the six nations that the king has by treaty given away all your lands to the thirteen great fires and whoever advised you to come to this place to deliver up the articles of the treaty &c.a which you solemnly made at Fort Stanwix are not your friends but are endeavouring to ruin you

Brothers it will not be long before we shall take possession of Niagara and Detroit which the English ceded to us as well as the lands this must then convince you that you have not been told the truth

Brothers I shall send your speech by the first opportunity to the thirteen great fires. I expect the great men the commissioners here shortly when they arrive they will speak to you further upon this matter

Brothers the articles of the Treaty cannot be violated. Be strong and keep the council now given you

(signed)

Jos Harmar

Lt. Col. Commandt.

Col Harmars answer -

Copy

VI

Fort McIntosh July 11th 1785

Sir

On the 11th instant I was informed that three chiefs (and twenty five indians) of the six nations had arrived at Fort Pitt and wished very much to speak with the commanding officer – Agreeably to their request I rode up to Pittsburg and met them in council when to my great surprize the Cornplanter the principal chief had the original articles of the treaty which was concluded with them at Fort Stanwix along with him, and towards the close of the speech, said they were burthensome and wished to deliver them up – I have the honor to enclose to you their speech and my answer to it.

It is reported that a Mr Brand has lately arrived from London who with the commanding officer of the british in that quarter has informed the six nations that their lands were never ceded to the Americans by the King of Great Britain; in consequence of which these chiefs complain of being accused by their nation of treachery and say they are in danger of their own people

They have left Fort Pitt highly satisfied to appearance with the answer to their speech but as long as the British keep possession of the posts it is very evident that all treaties held by us with the indians will have but little weight with them

I have the honor to be
With very great Esteem and Respect
Sir
Your most humble Servant
Jos Harmar
Lt Col Commt 1st AR

The Honorable
Major General Knox
Secretary at War

Copy -
Letter - 16th July - 1789 -
Lt Col Harmar -
Cornplanters - Talk -
Col Harmars answer -

copies of the Acts of your legislature from the time above mentioned, to be forwarded as speedily as possible: And that you will make the necessary arrangements, that I may be furnished from time to time with the Acts which shall hereafter be passed.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect,
Your Excellency's most Obedient
& most humble Serv^t,

CHA. THOMSON.*

His Excellency the President of Pennsylvania.

PRES. DICKINSON TO COMMISSIONERS ON BOUNDARY, 1785.

In Council, July 29th, 1785.

Gentlemen:

Several Considerations of great Moment, induce Us very earnestly to wish for the Accomplishment of the important Business entrusted to your Attention. We therefore embrace this Opportunity, by Captain Hutchins, of urging the prosecution of it with the utmost Diligence, & with all the Dispatch that is compatible with Accuracy in your Proceedings. We desire to be fully informed, & as frequently as possible, of your progress.

I am, with great Regard, Gentlemen,
your hble. serv^t,

JOHN DICKINSON.*

David Rittenhouse & Andrew Porter, Esquires.

COMMISSIONERS FOR TREATING WITH INDIANS, 1785.

Sir,

I take the liberty of informing your Excellency and the Honb^{le} Council, that agreeable to the Treaty held at Fort Stanwix between the Six Nation Indians and your Commisioners, on the 23rd Oct. last It was agreed that in addition to the Goods then delivered to the said Nations, an Obligation should be given to them for the Amount of One thousand Dollars, in such Goods as would best suit them, to be delivered at or near Tioga, on the Susquehannah, on the first Day of October next.

A strict and punctual observance of every promise made to the Savage Nations being of great moment, and the Season approaching very fast when your Commissioners' Obligation will be due, induce me to give this early hint to Council, that such steps may be taken in the premises as you shall deem expedient.

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* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIV., p. 507.

† Ibid.

I am your Excellency's most
Ob^{t} & very hb^{le} Serv^{t},
July 29th, 1785. FRA. JOHNSTON.[*]

Directed,
His Excellency John Dickinson, Esquire, in Council.

Lt. Col. Jos. Harmar to Pres. Dickinson 1785.

Fort McIntosh, August 1st, 1785.

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose to your Excellency & the honorable Council a monthly return of this date of the Pennsylvania Troops in the Service of the United States.

The troops have been mustered up to the 19th ult. and the rolls transmitted to Major North, Inspector. Enclosed, be pleased to receive an abstract of the muster.

Altho' I can receive no instructions for recruiting untill the honorable Legislature convenes, your Excellency & the honorable Council may rest assured that I shall use every exertion in my power to retain the troops in Service. Their time begins to expire on the 19th instant. I shall take upon me to form an Enlistment for securing such as are willing to serve for three years, until your Excellency's further pleasure is known.

The Ohio river at this Season is remarkably low, and usually continues so during this & the next month. It is now fordeable opposite the garrison—The Treaty to the Wabash therefore cannot possibly be carried on before the month of October or November next.

I would not wish to be in too great a hurry in recruiting.—There are at least fifty men in the present Corps, who are not fit to be re-enlisted,—a little time would procure a Corps that will reflect honor to the State.

If about five & twenty rifles could be obtained, to occasionally arm that number of Infantry, I should think it adviseable.

I have ordered Ensign Armstrong to receive your Excellency's instructions, and when he has recruited thirty stout, able-bodied men to rejoin the Corps.

I have the honor to be, with the highest esteem & respect,
your Excellency's & the honorable Council's
most hble. & obed. Servt.
JOS. HARMAR,[†]
Lt. Col. Comd. 1st Amr. Regt.

Directed,
His Excellency, John Dickinson Esqr., President, & The Honorable The Supreme Executive Council, Pennsylvania.
Honored ℘ Doctor Allison.

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[*] See Col. Rec., Vol. XIV., p. 507.

[†] See Ibid. p. 516.

The petition of Ellis Burgess, confined in the same jail, was read and rejected.

The Comptroller General's report upon the account of the Honorable Richard M'Callister, Esquire, for sundry military stores furnished by him for public use in the year 1776, was read and approved, and an order drawn upon the Treasurer in favor of the said Mr. M'Callister, for the sum of thirty-five pounds specie, in full of the same account.

The Comptroller General's reports upon the following accounts, vizt:

In favor of the Honorable Bernard Dougherty, for his attendance fifty-one days in the late Committee of Safety, from the 26th of September to the first of August, 1776, for his services as one of the Judges of a Special Court of Oyer and Terminer, held in Bedford Court in 1778, 1779 and 1780, under a special commission. And for rations furnished to the Bedford county militia, from July to December, 1782, were read and approved, and an order drawn upon the Treasurer for the sum of thirty-seven pounds twelve shillings, due upon the latter, to be paid out of the arrears of the eighteen penny tax, according to the resolution of Assembly dated the first day of April, 1782.

A letter was written to David Rittenhouse and Andrew Porter, Esquires, Commissioners for running and marking the western boundary of Pennsylvania, urging the prosecution of the important business intrusted to them with the utmost diligence, and with all the dispatch that is compatible with accuracy in their proceedings.

The Council met.

PHILADELPHIA, Saturday, July the 30th, 1785.

PRESENT:

His Excellency the President.

Hon'ble the Vice President.

Mr. Balliet,	Mr. M'Alister, and
Mr. Biddle,	Mr. Dougherty.
Mr. Boyd,	

A letter from Charles Thomson, Esquire, inclosing a resolution of Congress of July the twenty-seventh, requesting to be furnished with thirteen copies of the legislative acts of this State, from the year 1774, inclusive, was read.

A letter from Colonel Johnston, on the subject of furnished goods to the amount of one thousand dollars, to the six nations of Indians, on the first day of October next, according to Treaty held at Fort Stanwix the twenty-third day of October, 1784, was read, upon which it was

Ordered, That Colonel Johnston be requested to lay before Council a list of the goods necessary to be furnished as aforesaid.

A conference with the Honorable the Chief Justice, on the subject of disturbances at Wioming.

The Council met.

PHILADELPHIA, Monday, August 1st, 1785.

PRESENT:

His Excellency JOHN DICKINSON, Esquire, President.

The Honorable JAMES IRVINE, Esquire, Vice President.

Charles Biddle,
Stephen Balliet,
Bernard Dougherty,
John Boyd,
John McDowell,
Daniel Hiester, and
Richard McCallister,
Esquires.

Mr. Balliet attended the President as a member of the Board of Property.

A conference was had with Mr. Bayard, Mr. Moore, and Mr. Kuhl, members of Assembly, respecting the situation of affairs at Wioming.

The following orders were drawn upon the Treasurer:

In favor of David Meade, Esquire, for the sum of thirty-five pounds specie, advanced to him for public service, he to be accountable.

In favor of the Honorable John Boyd, Esquire, for the sum of fifty-seven pounds seven shillings and six pence specie, in full for his attendance in Council to the thirty-first of July, 1785, and his mileage.

In favor of Frederick Sneider, for the sum of fifteen pounds ten shillings specie, in full for his attendance as Door-keeper to Council to the thirty-first of July, 1785, inclu.

In favor of William Antes, for one pound specie, for cleaning and repairing two rifle guns, damaged on their way from Philadelphia to Sunbury, being a present from the Commonwealth to two Indian Chiefs, agreeably to treaty held in October, 1784.

To all to whom these Presents shall come, or may concern — Know Ye that We. Peter Oneyanha John Shanondonagh, Kanonghsase, Daniel Shaoneghserisea, Hendrick Shaghneghtorene, Moses Awethare, John Onontiyo — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —
Sachems and Chief Warriors of the Oneida Nation, by and with the advice and Consent of the said Nation, in Consideration of the great and important Services, rendered to us by Mr James Dean our Friend and Brother, and as a Token of our Esteem and Affection for him, have given & granted, and do hereby give and grant unto the People of the State of New York. All that parcel or Tract of Land described and bounded as followeth. Namely, Beginning at a certain place where the West Line of the patent of Coxborough crosseth the Stream or brook formed by the Junction of the Streams or brooks called Kaneghtaragearat and Kanyonshotta, it being one of the Branches of the Oriskany Creek or River, running thence North Twenty Four degrees and Thirty Minutes West Forty Chains, thence West Twenty Four degrees and Thirty Minutes South, One Hundred and Sixty Chains thence South Twenty Four degrees and Thirty Minutes East, One Hundred and Sixty Chains thence East Twenty Four degrees and Thirty Minutes North One Hundred and Sixty Chains thence on a direct Line to the place of Beginning, Together with all and Singular, the advantages and Appurtenances thereunto belonging, or in any wise appertaining — And We do hereby request our Brothers, the said People of the State of New York to give and grant, unto the said James Dean Letters Patent for the Same, according to the Constitution and Law of the State — But if our Brothers should not think proper to do the Same, then this Deed to be void and of no effect — In Testimony whereof we have hereunto set our Hands and Seals this Eleventh day of August and in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand, Seven Hundred and Eighty Five —

Signed Sealed and delivered in presence of —
Peter Schuyler
Abm. Ten Eyck
Jnº Mix

his
Peter + Oneyanha
mark

his
Hendrick + Shaghneghtorene
mark

his
John + Shanondonagh
mark

his
Moses + Awethare
mark

Kanonghsase his + mark

his
John + Onontiyo
mark

his
Daniel + Shaoneghserisea
mark

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 1785.

Congress assembled. Present, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, South Carolina and Georgia; and from the State of Rhode Island, Mr. [David] Howell; from New Jersey, Mr. [Lambert] Cadwallader, and from North Carolina, Mr. [William] Cumming.

His Excellency the president, being, by indisposition, prevented from attending the House, Congress proceeded to the election of a Chairman, and, the ballots being taken, the hon^{ble} Samuel Holten was elected.

On a report from the Secretary for foreign Affairs, accompanied with a letter of the 10, from the hon^{ble} the Minister plenipotentiary of the United Netherlands, and a commission from their High Mightinesses the Lords the States general to Diederik Leertouwer, appointing him their consul for New Hampshire and Massachusetts, to reside at Boston,

Resolved, That the said commission be registered in the Office of the Secretary of Congress, and that thereupon, an Act of recognition in due form be immediately issued to the States in question, in order that they may furnish the said consul with their exequatur or Notification of his quality, that the same may be made known and published.[1]

On the report of a committee, consisting of Mr. [Elbridge] Gerry, Mr. [Samuel] Hardy and Mr. [Charles] Pinckney, to whom was referred a motion of Mr. Pinckney:

[2] Whereas many States in the Union continue to be unrepre-

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[1] This resolution and the preamble were also entered, by Benjamin Bankson, in the manuscript Secret Journal, Foreign Affairs, No. 5. Jay's report is in No. 81, I, folio 357. It is indorsed: "The enclosures transmitted Aug^{t} 26 to office for F. affairs."

On this day, according to indorsement, was read the report of the committee on the letter of August 15 from the Secretary for Foreign Affairs on negotiations with Gardoqui. It was passed *verbatim* August 25 and is there spread on the Journal.

[2] At this point Roger Alden commences recording the Journal which Thomson, afterwards, read over and corrected in several places as noted above by brackets and lined type.

sented in Congress, or to be represented by only two members, notwithstanding the many urgent recommendations of Congress, for remedying these defects, particularly those of 1st of November, 1783, and the 19th of April, 1784. And whereas from the want of a compleat representation, the great Interests of the Union have frequently been, and continue to be neglected or delayed; and the Confederation itself, or the administration thereof by Congress, may be considered as the cause of evils [resulting from the Inadequacy of Representation] which solely result from an incompleat representation. And whereas it is incumbent on Congress to prevent opinions so derogatory to their honor, and so dangerous to the public welfare, ~~and tending so directly to a Change of our happy Form of Government, for others verging to Aristocracy or even to Despotism~~

Resolved, That the Secretary of Congress shall ~~twice~~ once in every month, transmit to the Legislatures of the respective States, a list of the States represented, and of those unrepresented in Congress, and of the members from each State; that effectual measures may, from time to time, be taken by such States as may be unrepresented or represented by only two members, to remedy these defects,[1]

Ordered, That a copy of this Resolve, and of those to which the first paragraph of the preamble refers, be transmitted to the Legislatures of the respective States.[2]

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[1] As a result of this proceeding Thomson caused to be printed blank forms on which the state of the representation could be entered and these forms were filled in and sent to the respective States. Samples of these forms, filled in in manuscript, are in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, Miscellaneous, in the Library of Congress, for the months of September, November and December, 1785.

[2] This report, in the writing of Elbridge Gerry, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 23, folio 225. The Pinckney motion, see *ante*, August 16, appears to exist only in the text of this report and the copy thereof in the Journal; the words lined out so appear in Gerry's report and not in the Journal; the phrase in brackets is not crossed out in the report and was recorded in the Journal by Alden, but Thomson changed it to the text as printed above. A copy of the vote, except that it omits Cumming of North Carolina, is on folio 227.

[1] In the passing the foregoing act, a division was called for, and that the question be first taken on the resolution: And on the question to agree to the resolving clause, the yeas and nays being required by Mr. [Jacob] Read,

New Hampshire,		
Mr. Foster,	ay	ay
Long,	ay	
Massachusetts,		
Mr. Gerry,	ay	ay
Holten,	ay	
King,	ay	
Rhode Island,		
Mr. Howell,	ay	*
New York,		
Mr. Lawrance	ay	ay
Haring,	ay	
Smith,	ay	
New Jersey,		
Mr. Cadwallader,	ay	*
Pennsylvania,		
Mr. Jackson,	ay	ay
Pettit,	ay	
Maryland,		
Mr. McHenry,	ay	ay
Hindman,	ay	
Virginia,		
Mr. Hardy,	ay	ay
Monroe,	ay	
Grayson,	ay	
North Carolina,		
Mr. Cumming,	ay	*
South Carolina,		
Mr. Read,	ay	ay
Bull,	ay	
Pinckney,	ay	
Kean,	ay	
Georgia,		
Mr. Habersham,	ay	ay
Baldwin,	ay	

So it was resolved in the affirmative.

The preamble and the Order passed without a division.

The Committee consisting &c [Mr. Samuel Hardy, Mr. Charles Pettit, and Mr. John Kean] to whom was referred the letter from Col? Harmar with its inclosures submit the following report.

That as it appears from the Speeches of the Chiefs of the six Nations delivered to Col? Harmar at Pittsburg, that the uneasiness of that Nation at the treaty of peace concluded with them at Fort Stanwix arises from a false report that has been propagated among them that the lands which they claimed have not been ceded by Great Britain to the United States by the late treaty of peace. And as it appears necessary that the most effectual steps should be taken to counteract such falsehoods in order to quiet the minds of the Indians, *Resolved*, That the Secretary at War be directed to enclose to Colº Harmar twelve Copies of the late treaty of peace between the United States and Great Britain and that he direct him to take such measures as he shall judge most proper to circulate them among the several tribes of the six Nations, and that he be authorized to draw on the Commissioners of the treasury for dollars to defray the expence of diffusing such intelligence [1]

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[1] At this point Thomson resumes recording the proceedings.

The Committee of the Week [Mr. David Jackson, Mr. David Howell and Mr. Melancton Smith] on the memorial of Richard Clairborne late a deputy Quarter Master in the service of the United States praying for the allowance of depreciation on his pay during the time he was in service, which commenced the 12th day of September, 1778, and ended the 5th of August, 1780, the whole not being quite two years, beg leave to report, ~~that altho on principles of equity the original contract with every person who entered the line of the army service ought to be made good be their continuance in the same longer or shorter; but as Congress have as yet made no general rule which might comprehend all cases of this nature and as~~ that the act of Congress of the 10th of April 1780 granting depreciation in the first instance does not comprehend the claim of Mr. Claibourne, they are therefore of opinion that the prayer of his memorial for the present cannot be granted.[2]

The Committee of the Week [Mr. David Jackson, Mr. David Howell and Mr. Melancton Smith] on the Memorial of Azariah Horton late a deputy commissary General of Musters in the late army of the United States, praying that he may be allowed the depreciation on his pay while he continued in service, beg leave to report, ~~that however equitable the claim of every officer may be for depreciation on his pay during the time of his continuance in service yet as Congress have adopted no general rule on the subject and extending it in particular cases being a very partial mode of redress.~~

That the case of Mr Horton does not come within the purview of the act of Congress of the 10th April 1780 granting depreciation in the first instance, as the department to which he belonged was abolished the 12th of Jany preceeding and one years extra pay allowed to each of the officers who had continued in the department eighteen months previous to its abolition. The Committee therefore are of opinion that for the present the prayer of said Horton's memorial cannot be complied with.[1]

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[1] This report, in the writing of Samuel Hardy, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 27, folio 277. The indorsement states that it was read on this day and filed October 19. See *ante*, August 15.

[2] This report, in the writing of David Jackson, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 32, folio 629. The indorsement states that it was read this day; consideration postponed. Oct 19 passed and referred to the Secretary of Congress to take order. Order taken May 10, 1786.

The Committee of the Week [Mr. David Jackson, Mr. David Howell and Mr. Melancton Smith] on the memorial of William Finnie late Deputy Quarter Master General in the southern department, praying that the donation of lands and other emoluments appertaining to the rank of a Colonel in the line of the late continental army may be extended to him, beg leave to report, that as the merits of his claim will altogether depend on his being entitled to the rank of a Colonel in the line; and that as it rather appears dubious to them whether such rank is due to Mr Finnie, they therefore recommend his memorial may be referred to the Secretary at War to report.[2]

The Committee [consisting of Mr. John Bull, Mr. William Ellery, and Mr. David Jackson] to whom was recommitted a Letter from Jno. Pierce paymaster genl of the 6th of November, 1784, referring to his Letter dated July 11, 1784, to the Committee of the States, with its inclosures, and also a Petition of the officers of the late American Regiment dated Nov. 20. 1784. report,

That it appears from the said Letters Petition and enclosures that the Officers lately discharged at West Point had appropriated to their own use the sum of 2,276 53/90 dols. more than the two months pay voted them by Congress, that Capt. Thos. H. Condy, paymaster to the regiment at West Point had received a letter from John Pierce paymaster general desiring him to pay the subsistence of the Garrison at that post, for which purpose he addressed to said Condy two draughts on James Lovell, Esquire one for three thousand and the other for eight hundred and eighty-eight dols; that sd Condy negotiated the latter at New York, which enabled him to pay the Garrison their subsistence for May and one half for the month of June; that the ballance being wanted the officers agreed to send a Person to Boston to obtain the Cash for the other Note; that Doct. John Hart having consented to do the business the s^d Condy put the said Note into his hands taking his receipt therefore, in which s^d Hart promised to get the same exchanged and to be accountable for the same; that in the absense of Doct. Hart Genl. Knox arrived at West Point, with the Resolve of Congress that respected the reform of the Army; that the officers finding they were to receive two months' pay in M^r Morris' Notes, and the four Months which would be then due in M^r Pierce's certificates, several of them applied to the s^d Condy at different times, representing that the two months pay would not be sufficient to settle their accounts and carry them home, requesting that as all the money that was expected by Doct. Hart would not be wanted for the purpose for which it was sent or that after paying the subsistence due, said Condy would make a distribution of the overplus, take their receipts and charge the same to their accounts; that he informed them he would by no means do it, as M^r Pierce had pointed out the particular manner in which the money was to be applied; that when D^r Hart returned he paid said Condy 568 dollars, telling him that he was not ready to make a settlement; that the troops at West Point being paid and discharged, said Condy was ordered to Springfield to pay the company stationed there; that when he returned the greater part of the Officers were gone home; that having called on Doct. Hart, he presented him with the receipts of the deranged Officers for six weeks pay to each of them, which they had received on account—that after examining those with the Cash he gave S^d Hart he found a deficiency of 147$^{44}/_{90}$ dols. which S^d Hart informed him he had not got, nor could he account for it, and that this sum with the six weeks and two months pay compleats the settlement for Doct. Hart's services being six months in the year 1784. Upon this statement your Committee, submit the following resolution:

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[1] This report, in the writing of David Jackson, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 32, folio 631. The indorsement states that it was read on this day, October 19 passed and referred to the Secretary of Congress to take order. Order taken May 10, 1786.

[2] This report, in the writing of David Jackson, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 32, folio 633. It is indorsed August 16, but Despatch Book No. 185 enters it under date of August 17 and Committee Book No. 190 notes that it was referred to the Secretary at War on the latter date. He reported September 15. Finnie's memorial is in No. 42, III, folio 139.

That although Congress cannot approve of the conduct of the Officers of the late American Regiment in receiving of Doct. John Hart in the absense of the Paym^t six weeks pay more than they were entitled to receive by the resolution of Congress of June 2nd 1784, yet considering their unexpected discharge from the service and the embarrassments they were under by reason of the Debts they had contracted with an expectation of being fully paid their arrears in specie, Congress consent that the sum of $2{,}276\frac{53}{90}$ Dollars be charged by the Paymaster Genl. to the accounts of said officers, and that he have the same be passed to his credit in the Treasury.

Resolved, That the conduct of John Hart late Surgeon of s^d Regiment, in distributing and appropriating to his own use, a sum of money for which he promised to be accountable to the paymaster of the regiment is highly reprehensible.[1]

THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 1785.

Congress assembled. Present as yesterday.[2]

The Delegates for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having laid before Congress a letter of the 8th, from His Excellency the Governor of that State, together with a Copy of Letters from Captain Stanhope, Commander of the British Frigate *Mercury*, to his Excellency James Bowdoin, Esquire, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and of his Excellency's answers to the two first of those Letters, the same were

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[1] This report, in the writing of John Pierce, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 21, folio 389. It is indorsed as read this day and passed August 25.

August 17: The following committees were appointed: Mr. [John] Lawrance, Mr. [James] McHenry and Mr. [Rufus] King, on the memorial of James Stewart. See *post*, August 19, also *ante*, August 9.

Committee Book No. 190.

Also, according to Committee Book No. 190, a memorial from J. H. C. Heineken respecting the ship *Minerva* and her cargo was referred to the Secretary for Foreign Affairs to report, which he did on August 25. Heineken's memorial is in No. 41, VI, folio 412.

Also a memorial from William Finnie was read and referred to the Secretary at War to report, which he did on September 15. Finnie's memorial, which is undated, prays for land due him under his rank as colonel. It is in No. 42, III, folio 139, and is indorsed as acted on February 2, 1786. It is further noted that "Two Commissions and certificates from Genl. Greene and Genl. Muhlenburgh delivd. Col. Finnie Sept. 25th 1786."

Also, on this day, according to indorsement, was read a letter from Governor William Livingston of New Jersey, dated August 14, relative to the State's representation in Congress. It is in No. 68, folio 657.

[2] The proceedings regarding this Stanhope affair were entered only in the manuscript Secret Journal, Foreign Affairs, No. 5, by Benjamin Bankson, and in Secret Journal No. 4. A copy is in Secret Journal No. 6, Vol. III.

The Committee consisting &c.
to whom was referred the ~~letter~~ from
Col° Harmar with its inclosures submit
the following Report.—

That as it appears from the Speeches of the Chiefs of the six Nations delivered to Col° Harmar at Pittsburg, that the uneasiness of that Nation at the treaty of peace concluded with them at fort Stanwix arises from a false Report that has been propagated among them that the lands which they claimed ~~were~~ have not been ceded by Great Britain to the United States by the late treaty of peace. And as it appears necessary that the most effectual steps should be taken to counteract such falsehoods in order to quiet the minds of the Indians. Resolved that the Secretary at War be directed to enclose to Col° Harmar twelve Copies of the late treaty of peace between the United States & Great Britain & that he direct him to take such measures as he shall judge most proper to circulate them among the several tribes of the six Nations. and that he be authorized to draw on the Commissioners of the treasury for

dollars to defray the expence of
diffusing such intelligence.

No 75

Report of Mr Hardy
Mr Pettit
& Mr Kean

On Letter from Le Tallier
& letter from Lieut Col. Harmar

Ent. read 17 Aug. 1785

19 Augst
filed

[illegible] 1785

My dear friend.

This is to acquaint you, & all the Chiefs of the Oneida Tribe, of the situation of the Indians in this quarter — & the present disposition of their minds. — In my apprehension there are some things which greatly ~~embarrass~~ obstruct the settling of Peace in these parts. — The fair prospects that opened, on the first promulgation of peace are very much beclouded, — You know how the preliminary articles & a cessation of arms were received by many of us — some rejoiced at the event. & thanked you Sir for your exertions in your quarter. — And you will remember the strong terms & fixed resolution with which we published them in our Journey to Sanduske and our talk with the warriours there when we wrested the hatchet from their hands ~~of the~~ & confined them to their domestic employments

You also know there are many among us who do not wish to have any falling out with the white people — for we were not ~~the~~ instigators of the late war.

We are yet of the same sentiments, & wish for the establishment of a peace that shall be just & hon^{ra} for both the Bostonians & us Indians and when this shall appear all difficulties will remove — otherwise the obstructions will remain —

For this reason, my friend — use your utmost influence, with every Oneida Chief — that Congress, your Brothers, comply with our request in attending our treaty — and that it be done with dispatch. There are some things that lie deep in our minds —

I exhort you to exert yourself in

forwarding our Speech to Congreſs - I have but one thing more to mention to you - which is this - I have taken the liberty to nominate three perſons whom I could wish to attend, as Deputies - Viz - Colᵒ. James Monroe - Major Peter Schuyler - & James Dean - Interpreter - - this is what I have to say -

My salutations await you all -

Jos. Brant -

Thayendanegea -

Schenondonagh

Niagare August 26th
1785

I hope my friend, that my meſsengers will be treated with every mark of civility during their continuance among you -

Joseph Brant to
Skenondon
A true Coppy

Copy
1785
Journal [illegible]

Joseph Brant to Schenondouagh

My dear friend.

This is to acquaint you, and all the Chiefs of the Oneida tribe, of the situation of the Indians in this quarter - & the present disposition of their minds. - In my apprehension there are some things which greatly obstruct the settling of Peace in these parts. - the fair prospects that opened, on the first promulgation of peace are very much beclouded. - You know how the preliminary articles & a cessation of arms were received by many of us - some rejoiced at the event, & thanked you for your exertions in your quarter. - And you will remember, the strong terms & fixed resolution with which we published them in our journey to Sanduske - and our talk with the warriours there when we wrested the hatchet from their hands & confined them to their domestic employments.

You also know there are many among us who do not wish to have any falling out with the white people - for we were not the instigators of the late war.

We are yet of the same sentiments, & wish for the establishment of a peace that shall be just & hon$^{\underline{bl}}$ for both the Bostonians & us Indians and when this shall appear - all difficulties will remove - otherwise the obstructions will remain -

For this reason, my friend - use your utmost influence with every Oneida Chief - that Congress, your Brothers, comply with our request - in attending our treaty - and that it be done with dispatch. There are some things that lie deep in our minds. -

I exhort you to exert yourself in forwarding our speech to Congress - I have but one thing more to mention to you - which is this - I have taken the liberty to nominate three persons whom I could wish to attend, as Deputies - viz - Col.[1] James Monroe, Major Peter Schuyler - & James Dean - Interpreter - this is what I have to say -

My salutations await you all -

Jos. Brant --

Thayendanegea -

Schenondouagh

Niagare August 26th 1785

I hope my friend, that my messengers will be treated with every mark of civility during their continuance among you --

[From a copy in Kirkland's hand.]

THE CORRESPONDENCE

OF

Lieutenant Governor John Graves Simcoe

With Allied Documents

VOL. V—1792-1796 (Supplementary)

MEMORANDUM BY JOSEPH BRANT.

That you Bostonians (alias Americans) may be certified of my conduct towards *all* those whom I have captured in these parts—know—that I have taken off with me but a small number—many have I released—neither were the weak & helpless subjected to death. It is a *shame* to destroy those who are defenceless—this has been *uniformly* my conduct during the war. I have always been for saving & releasing—These being my sentiments, you have exceedingly angered me by your threatening & distressing those who may be considered as *prisoners*—Let there be no more of this conduct—Ye are or once were brave Men—I shall certainly destroy without distinction—does the like conduct take place in future—

JOSEPH BRANT
on the Delaware Kriks
1780.

(Rough draft of a translation, in Kirkland's hand.)

FROM JOSEPH BRANT TO REV. SAMUEL KIRKLAND.

My dear friend.

This is to acquaint you, and all the Chiefs of the Oneida tribe, of the situation of the Indians in this quarter—& the present disposition of their minds.—In my apprehension there are *some things* which greatly obstruct the settling of Peace in these parts.—the fair prospects that opened, on the first promulgation of peace are very much beclouded.—You know how the preliminary articles & a cessation of arms were received by many of us—some rejoiced at the event, & thanked you for your exertions in your quarter.—And you will remember, the strong terms & fixed resolution with which we published them in our journey to Sanduske—and our talk with the warriours there when we wrested the hatchet from their hands & confined them to their domestic employments.

You also know there are many among us who do not wish to have any falling out with the white people—for we were not the instigators of the late war.

We are yet of the same sentiments, & wish for the establishment of a peace that shall be just & honbl for both the Bostonians & us Indians and when this shall appear—all difficulties will remove—otherwise the obstructions will remain—

For this reason, my friend—use your utmost influence with every Oneida Chief—that Congress, your Brothers, comply with our request—in attending our treaty—and that it be done with dispatch. There are some things that lie deep in our minds.—

I exhort you to exert yourself in forwarding our speech to Congress—I have but one thing more to mention to you—which is this—I have taken the liberty to nominate three persons whom I could wish to attend, as Deputies—viz—Coll. James Monroe, Major Peter Schuyler—& James Dean—Interpreter—this is what I have to say—

My salutations await you all—

Jos. Brant—
Thayendanegea—

Schenondouagh.

Niagare August 26th 1785.

I hope my friend, that my messengers will be treated with every mark of civility during their continuance among you—

(*Kirkland MSS, Library of Hamilton College, Clinton, N.Y.*)

FROM JOSEPH BRANT TO REV. SAMUEL KIRKLAND.

Grand River 8th Mar. 1791.

My dear friend,

I am happy in having the pleasure to acknowledge your favour by Mr. E. Phelps dated the 12th Ulto in which I observe with no small regret that you are discouraged of ever making that progress in civilization amongst the Indians in which you once appeared much more sanguine.—

I must acknowledge that the present face of Affairs seems to throw a damp upon the undertaking, and makes the prospect more gloomy. as it again spreads that dark veil which had begun to remove from off the minds of some, which will not only make the Undertaking more difficult, but protract the work, while those already enlightened, are moving gradually off the Stage, to leave the completion to less experienced hands.—

Altho' the minds of the Indns. seem to be encompassed in a cloud which their own strength of Judgement cannot remove, and their prejudices so great that access becomes difficult, still, I, cannot condemn them when I consider the many reasons which opperates upon them.— To compute it to defect in Nature would be centreing the blame where we have no right to search— they believe the same supreme power created both them and the white people, but perhaps for different purposes; there originates the first prejudice—a chain of corroborating circumstances, and events, seems to evince to them that the white people, under whatever pretence, aim at their destruction—possess'd with such Idea's their prejudices naturally encrease and seeing the sword in one hand, supported by injustice and corruption, is it any wonder that they suspect the sincerity of any proposals made on the other hand for so great a change as civilization must make, in whatever coulour it's represented— No: they must first be convinced that a Change will not place them in a worse situation than they are now in—and that must be begun

The Council met.

PHILADELPHIA, Tuesday, September 13th, 1785.

PRESENT:

His Excellency JOHN DICKINSON, Esquire, President.

The Honorable JAMES IRVINE, Esquire, Vice President.

Charles Biddle,
John McDowell,
John Whitehill,
John Neville,
Daniel Hiester,
Stephen Balliet, and
Jonathan Hoge,
Esquires.

Philip Dougherty's petition, praying the remission of the fine imposed upon him for keeping a tipling house, was read and granted.

Joseph Wood's petition, praying the remission of one hundred pounds forfeited by him to the State in the case of Ellis Burgess, was read; and upon the Attorney General's representation that he is insolvent, and that he has suffered sufficiently for his conduct, an order was taken that it be granted.

A letter from Charles Thomson, Esquire, inclosing a state of the representation in Congress for the last month, and several additional sheets of the journals of that body were received and read. An order was taken that these papers be transmitted to the General Assembly.

The Council met.

PHILADELPHIA, Wednesday, September, 14th, 1785.

PRESENT:

His Excellency JOHN DICKINSON, Esquire, President.

The Honorable JAMES IRVINE, Esquire, Vice President.

John Boyd,
John McDowell,
Charles Biddle,
Jonathan Hoge,
John Whitehill,
Daniel Hiester,
Stephen Balliet, and
John Neville,
Esquires.

Council, agreeable to the order, proceeded to the election of a Collector of Excise for the county of Lancaster, when it appeared that Samuel Turbett was duly elected.

Mr McClay (to whom the delivery of the Indian goods at Tioga, agreeably to the late treaty at Fort Stanwix, has been committed) appeared in Council, and presented the following estimate of the expenses necessarily attending the execution of this service; upon which an order was taken that one hundred pounds issue to him on account:—

Estimate of the Expences of Provisions and the Carriage, &ca. of the same, together with the Carriage of the Goods to be delivered to the Indians at Tioga, the first of October, 1785.

20 hundred weight of flour, at 15s.,	£15	0	0
10 flour barrels, at 2s.,	1	0	0
20 hundred weight of beef, at 28s.,	28	0	0
Hire of 2 small boats or 4 canoes, for 20 days,	4	0	0
10 hands for 20 days, including provisions for the boats or canoes, at 4s. p. day,	40	0	0
2 hands to drive cattle, 12 days, including provisions, at 4s.,	4	16	0
Hire of one horse for the drivers, 12 days, at 1 6,	0	18	0

Alexander McGuichen, of Carlisle, was unanimously elected to the office of Collector of Excise for the county of Cumberland.

Dr. Andrew Forest, of the town of Lebanon, was appointed Collector of Excise for the county of Dauphine.

James Anderson was appointed Collector of Excise for the county of Bedford.

The lashes and fine to which Daniel Cunningham was sentenced, were, upon the recommendation of the magistracy, remitted.

Henry Drinker, senior, and Amos Foulke, merchants of this city, and John Evans, of the county of Montgomery, were offered as sureties, by Rowland Evans, Esquire, for the faithful performance of his duty as a Trustee of the General Loan office of this State, and accepted.

The Council met.

PHILADELPHIA, Thursday, September 15th, 1785.

PRESENT:

His Excellency JOHN DICKINSON, Esquire, President.

The Honorable JAMES IRVINE, Esquire, Vice President.

John Boyd, Jonathan Hoge, and
John McDowell, Stephen Balliet,
Charles Biddle, Also, John Whitehill, Esquires.

An order was drawn upon the Treasurer, in favor of Roger Hart, for the sum of six pounds one shilling and eleven pence

~~United States; the said Proprietors paying for such Portion of Land such Price as shall be awarded by three Persons (or any two of them) to be chosen and agreed upon by the Geographer of the United States, and the said Proprietors; provided that such Price be not less than one Dollar per Acre, and that the Mode and Terms of Payment be according to the Directions of the Ordinance of the 20th of May last for the Division and Sale of Land.~~[1]

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1785.

Congress assembled. Present, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, and South Carolina; and from the State of Virginia, Mr. [William] Grayson; from North Carolina, Mr. [William] Cumming, and from Georgia, Mr. [John] Habersham.

On a report from the Secretary at War, to whom was referred a memorial of Pierre Ayotte,

Resolved, That the Commissioner of Army Accounts, in liquidating the claims of Pierre Ayotte, allow him the pay and subsistence of a captain for the year 1776, deducting three hundred dollars advanced him by the resolution of the 24th February last.

That the further sum of one hundred and fifty dollars be allowed him in full of all expences incurred by him in the service of the public.

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[1] This report, in the writing of Charles Pettit, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 19, III, folio 249. The indorsement states that it was read on this day. See *ante*, June 29.

SEPTEMBER 13: The following committee was appointed:

Mr. [William] Grayson, Mr. [Pierse] Long and Mr. [David] Howell, on a letter of "14 Sept" from Thomas Paine "to know what Congress mean to do for him." Report was rendered September 26. Paine's letter, undated, is in No. 55, folio 89.

Also on this day, the petition of Hugh Ferguson, respecting a settlement of his accounts, was referred to the Board of Treasury to report, which it did September 17.

Committee Book No. 190.

That he be allowed rations until the first of June next, and that the same quantity of lands be assigned to him, as may be assigned to the heads of other canadian families.

The Com^{ce} [consisting of Mr. Samuel Holten, Mr. John Haring and Mr. David Howell] to whom was referred a Memorial from Return Jonathan Meigs, late a Col. in the service of the U. States, and Job: Greene son and heir of Christopher Greene deceased, late also a Col. in s^{d} Service, beg leave to submit the following report.

Your Com^{ee} find that on the 16th day of May, 1776, the Sum of £50 Halifax currency was borrowed of W^{m} Simon Faraser, of Quebec, by the late Col. Christopher Greene, and the first mentioned memorialist, then prisoners in Quebec, for the repayment whereof, with lawful interest, they gave their joint note to M^{r} Fraser. Your Com^{ee} also find s^{d} Sum was expended by the aforesaid borrowers for the use and comfort of their unfortunate fellow prisoners.

Whereupon your Com^{ee} recommend the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Board of Treasury take order for paying to Return Jonathan Meigs, late a Col. in the service of the U. States & to the legal representative of Christopher Greene deceased, late a Col. in said Service, the Sum of two hundred dollars with interest, thereon from May 16, 1776, the same having been by them expended for the use and comfort of their unfortunate fellow prisoners in Quebec in the year 1776.[1]

War Office, *Sep^{t} 12th 1785.*

The Secretary of the United States for the department of War, to whom was referred two papers on Indian Affairs, one signed by sundry of the Oneida Chiefs, and the other by Jacob Reed dated New York Sep^{t} 8th, 1785, Reports—

That however true the information transmitted by the Oneida Chiefs may be, relative to the proceedings of the British Troops against the Cagnawagas Indians he conceives the United States cannot take any cognizance of the same. That the Coghwanags having their residence in the centre of Canada must be supposed to be under the direction of the Government there, in the same degree with any other subjects as in the manner that the Stockbridge Indians are under the direction of the Government of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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[1] This report, in the writing of David Howell, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress,* No. 19, IV, folio 49. According to indorsement it was read this day and passed September 28.

That presuming the Letter from the Oneida's to be genuine, it may be proper that an answer be given expressive of their good will to the Oneida Nation. That the information of the proceedings against the Coghnawagas gives them uneasiness as they are entirely in the dark with respect to the transaction & as it relates to those people settled in the heart of Canada under the protection of the British Government, any interference on the part of the United States would not only be improper but without effect, as it appears, whatever intention the British Government might have towards that tribe of Indians, it must have been exerted before Congress could possibly take any measures on the subject—That the sincere dispositions of Congress are for Peace with all the World. That if however there should be any violation of Treaties particularly those made by the Indians last year at Fort Stanwix Congress possess the means of inflicting full vengeance on the Criminals, and they desire their good friends the Oneidas to inform the six Nations of their sentiments." That the letter signed Jacob Reed does not appear to your Secretary to be an authentic Act of the Chiefs of the Oneidas but probably a fabrication of his own in conjunction with some interested persons.

[The Sec^{y} at war reports] That *independent however of this letter* it may be a subject worthy the attention of Congress, whether it would not be necessary to appoint some confidential Person with a small Salary, either resident with the six Nations or upon the Frontiers nearest to them, to whom they might apply as the intermediate Person between them and Congress. That this appointment would involve a certain expence, but whether it would not be fully compensated by the Political good resulting from it in the management of the Indian and the prevention of applications to Congress upon frivolous occasions by unauthorized Persons is a question to be decided by Congress—every party of Indians who may think proper to repair to Congress will expect to be gratified by presents—the custom of visiting will increase in proportion to the value of presents and kindness of the treatment they may receive.

Your Secretary is sensible that the smallest establishment of this nature cannot be made without considerable disbursements, as the Agent must possess almost a discretionary power of appropriating the public means in his possession; that the principals of this kind of Business, in which it is difficult to obtain fair and accurate Vouchers will require that the most approved integrity and judgment should be united in an Agent, which qualities would be a greater security against frauds than whole quires of apparent Vouchers whose goodness cannot be known by any established criterion.

At the same time your Secretary intimates his opinion of the propriety of this institution, he is sensible that it is only part of a Plan which probably the United States may hereafter find necessary to form, which may comprehend the whole system of Indian Affairs, but which perhaps may be executed in detail until that period shall arrive.

There being four of the Oneidas in this City, who know that presents were lately ordered to the Stockbridge Indians; your Secretary submits to Congress the propriety of making them the like donations.

H. Knox.[1]

Motion—

That one hundred dollars be appropriated for presents &c to the said Indians.

Ordered, That the foregoing report and motion be referred to the Secretary at War to take order.[2]

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1785.

Congress assembled. Present, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland and South Carolina; and from the State of Virginia, Mr. [William] Grayson, and from Georgia, Mr. [John] Habersham.

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[1] This report is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress,* No. 151, folio 103. It is indorsed as "Entd Sep. 12." According to Resolve Book No. 123 it was read September 14. The phrase in brackets was written in by Charles Thomson after October 4, *q. v.*

[2] This motion and order are entered by Benjamin Bankson in Resolve Book No. 123, wherein Knox's report is also copied.

Also on this day, according to Committee Book No. 190, a memorial from Toussaint Lopez, dated September 2, was read and referred to the Board of Treasury to report. A report was rendered September 19; the memorial is in No. 42, IV, folio 364. See *ante,* May 13, and *post,* September 24.

Also, according to indorsement, was read a letter from Thomas Johnson, dated September, declining to act as a judge in the boundary controversy between Massachusetts and New York. It is in No. 78, XIII, folio 351.

Also, a letter of August 30 from John Langdon, President of New Hampshire, acknowledging the letter and resolves of Congress relative to representation. It is in No. 64, folio 264.

Oneida Septemr 14th 1785.

Sir

This day arrived here two Runners from the Buffaloe Creek, with a belt & speech for Congreſs also a Cayoger Chief with a speech to the Oneida's its contents to be communicated to Congreſs. Mr Dean being abſent I must comply with the request of the Oneida Chiefs and do myself the honor to transmit them with a short addreſs from the Oneidas I am Sir

In great truth & esteem
Your Excellency's
most obedt hume Servt

Saml Kirkland

Brothers of the Oneida tribe.

We Cayogers are your brother tribe in the Confederacy — with you we can use freedom whatever be our circumstances, it will affect you accordingly. Brothers we are in an unhappy situation Many of our head men still reside in the vicinity of Niagara their attention is that way. Those of our Nation who are for America have returned & settled in our old place at Cayogen they confide in the Justice & humanity of Congreſs we believed that Congreſs would abide strictly by the treaty at Fort S[illegible] last fall therefore we returned to our Countr

But now they tell us from the neighbourhood of Niagara, that we are fools for settling at our old place — that we don't own any thing there — that Congreſs did not mean to restore us to our ancient poſseſsions — And they advise us to quit our settlement — & turn our attention another way.

Brother Oneidas — This is our situation — we are perplexed — we are held in a State of suspence — our young men will not exert themselves in hunting or building houses for their respective families while things look so much like uncertainty —

We expected Congreſs, your American Brethren would take poſseſsion of the western Garrisons — but some — tell us another story.

we are alſo troubled with Traders bringing Rum into our Country — it makes great disturbance among us — our young men cannot hunt while they see Rum — we wish the Traders might bring such articles of Clothing & provisions as we want & not any strong liquor — & we will use them well & we are sure it would be their interest to observe it.

Brother Oneidas — You are the acknowledged friends of Congreſs — & by the treaty last fall you were appointed the medium of conveyance from us of the six Nations to Congreſs. —

I desire you in behalf of my Nation, to acquaint them with our situation — & pray them to let us know what we may depend upon — Brother this is all I have now to say

Tegalltyoninangon —
Cayouga Chief —

From the Oneidas to the President of Congreſs

Brother — We have heard the Speech of the Cayoga Cheif — we believe he is a good man, and is worthy of attention. we need not say that the Oneidas are your true friends we do heartily wish the prosperity of the United States & that the happy effects of Peace may extend thro' their vast dominions.

Brother — there are some bad people towards the setting of the sun — we wish you might clear this Island of all who do not love peace.

we earnestly request you to send an answer to the Cayogen Cheif — You can remove their difficulties — tis in your power to quiet their minds

Brother — this is all we have to say in regard to the Speech of the Cayogen Cheif

Agwelentongwas
Speaker

Head Warriors { Skenendon
Jaghsaweda
Kayendalonquiah
Gaghsetogen

N.B. — Mr Dean has this evening arrived & will attend to the other business tomorrow

His Excellency
— President of Congreſs

Letter 14. 1785

Samuel Kirkland

Read 29 Sept

Referred to

Mr King

Mr Howell

Mr Smith

Brother.

A number of our Brethren of the Shawanese & Cherokee Nations have come down to our Council Fire at Buffalo Creek to confer with us on the Subject of the peace with the United States. We could not agree in our Conference & adjourned the Meeting to Niagara where we resumed the Subject with our Brothers from the Westward & at length came to an Agreement. Brothers, the Business is very important. We wish You to be present, by a deputation of some of Your People, to hear what passes between our Brethren & us on this Occasion. We request You therefore to send Col.^o James Monroe, Major Peter Schuyler & M^r James Dean, that they may be there present, & hear the result of our Conference with our Brethren the Shawanese & Cherokees. We do now by this Belt take them by the hand & conduct them to our Council House at Buffalo Creek.

Brother, they need not be apprehensive of any danger or detention. It is not our Custom to detain those who come to do business with us. Their Stay with us will be very short we only wish them to hear what passes at this Conference that You may have the most correct information of our proceedings. Brothers We hope that You will not fail to comply with our request, by sending the persons whom we have named, to meet us as soon as possible. Our Messenger will wait at Oneida for your reply to this —

A Belt.

Joseph Brant
Speaker —

His Excellency
President of Congress

Oneida Septr 15th 1785

Brother

We have heard the Speech of our Brothers of the six Nations - We are of the opinion that your Compliance with their request may have a tendency to promote that harmony & friendship which we ardently wish may ever prevail between the United States & the Indians on this Island - We wish you health & prosperity

his
Peter × Okegemha
mark
his
John × Skanondonag
mark
his
Peter × Agwerondongwags
mark
his
Lodwick × Kaghsaweta
mark

His Excellency
President of Congress

Oneida Septr: 15th – 1785 –

Sir.

Yesterday a Runner arrived here from the Buffaloe Creek, sent by the Six Nations, with a Belt & the Incloſed Speech for Congreſs, which I do myself the honor to transmit – They have requested the Oneidas to exert their Influence, to procure the Interview proposed – The Oneidas have therefore subjoined a Short address to that of the Six Nations

I am Sir,

with Sentiments of Reſpect

Your Excellency's

most Obedt.

humble Servant

James Dean

His Excellency
Preſident of Congreſs

Letter 15 Sept 1785
James Dean
& Message from Jos: Brant
& Oneidas

Read 24 Sept 1785

Referred to
Mr King
Mr Howell
Mr Smith

Pennsylvania,		
Mr. Gardner,	ay	ay
Jackson,	ay	
Pettit,	ay	
Wilson,	ay	
Delaware,		
Mr. Vining,	ay	ay
Bedford,	ay	
Maryland,		
Mr. McHenry,	ay	ay
Hindman,	ay	
South Carolina,		
Mr. Read,	ay	ay
Bull,	ay	
Pinckney,	no	
Kean,	ay	
Georgia,		
Mr. Houstoun,	ay	ay
Habersham,	ay	
Baldwin,	ay	

So it was resolved in the affirmative as follows:

Whereas the petition of [1]Zebulon Butler and others, claiming private right of Soil under the State of Connecticut, and within the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, doth not describe with sufficient certainty, the tract of Land claimed by the said Zebulon Butler and others, nor particularly name the private adverse claims under grants from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:

Resolved, That the resolutions of Congress of the 23d day of January, 1784, relative to the claim of Zebulon Butler and others, be, and hereby are repealed.[2]

[3]THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1785.

Congress assembled. Present, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, South Carolina and Georgia.

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[1] At this point Roger Alden begins the entry in the Journal.

[2] Also on this day, according to indorsement, was read the report of the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, dated September 20, submitting drafts of letters to Count Florida Blanca and Count Galvez. The drafts were referred back to the Secretary to take order. They, with the reference order, are entered in full in Resolve Book No. 123, under this date. Jay's original report is in No. 81, I, folio 393.

[3] At this point Thomson resumes the entries in the Journal.

On a report from the board of treasury, to whom was referred a memorial of Mr. Chevalie, praying payment of a certain bill of exchange drawn in behalf of the United States, by the late major general Lincoln,

That it would be inconsistent with the principles of justice to make any distinction in the payment of the said bills on account of the character or circumstances of the person to whom they may be transferred;

They therefore submit to Congress the following resolve:

Resolved, That Mons. Chevalie, be referred to the general provision made by the resolve of Congress of the 23 July, 1781, for the liquidation of the bills drawn by major general Lincoln, and accepted by the board of treasury in pursuance of the resolves of Congress of the 23 March, and 6th July, 1780.[1]

On a report of the board of treasury, to whom was referred a report of William Barber, commissioner of Accounts for the State of New York, on the claims of Timothy Divine, a refugee from Canada,

Resolved, That the damages done by the british troops or their adherents, in Canada, during the late war, to the subjects of that province, charged with an attachment to the American cause, cannot be compensated by the United States.

That the register of the treasury be directed to issue his certificate to Timothy Divine, for one thousand two hundred and twenty-nine dollars and 78/90$^{\text{ths}}$ and that the same be compensation in full to the said Timothy Divine, for all his claims against the United States.[2]

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[1] This report, dated September 21, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress,* No. 138, I, folio 219. According to Committee Book No. 191 it was read this day.

[2] This report, dated September 21, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress,* No. 138, I, folio 283. The letter transmitting the report included also the report on the memorial of Chevalie fils, is dated September 22 and is in No. 140, I, folio 43.

Office for Foreign Affairs,
20th Septemr 1785.

Sir: I have the Honor of transmitting to your Excellency herewith enclosed, a Letter of the 12th July last, from Mr Jefferson, with several Papers which accompanied it, relative to the case of John Jackson an english Pilot taken by Chevalier Jones, and who lost his Arm in the Action with the *Seraphis*,

I have the Honor to be with great Respect and Esteem Your Excellency's Most obt & very h'ble Servt

John Jay.[1]

His Excellency
The President of Congress.

Office for Foreign Affairs,
19th September, 1785.

Sir: A few Days ago I had a visit from the Baron de Beelen Bertholff who stiled himself "Counsellor of Commerce and Navigation for the States of his Imperial Majesty." The Object of his Visit is explained in the Paper herewith enclosed.

There are several States with whom we have no Treaties, who subject us to no higher Duties than are exacted from Nations with whom they have commercial Treaties. There is Reason therefore to apprehend that if the Discrimination proposed to the Legislature of South Carolina should be adopted, it will be retaliated by all the foreign States who may be affected by it.

I have the Honor etc.

John Jay.[2]

His Excellency
The President of Congress.

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[1] This letter is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 80, I, folio 405. According to No. 180, *Reports of the Secretary of Congress*, Thomson reported September 22 that these letters and papers be referred to a committee. They were so referred to Mr [David] Howell, Mr [Pierse] Long, Mr [John] Kean, who reported September 28: "See letter May 2d 1788 read from Secy at War relating to the same subject with copies of letters from Mr Jefferson. March 30th 1790, transmitted the papers & letter—Sept. 23d 1784 from J. P. Jones. do July 12th '85. Mr Jefferson, to the Office f. forn Affairs." Jefferson's letter is in No. 87, I, folio 13; the accompanying papers are on folios 17–23.

[2] This letter is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 80, I, folio 401. According to indorsement it was this day referred to Mr [Elbridge] Gerry, Mr [William Samuel] Johnson, Mr [Charles] Pettit, Mr [William] Grayson and Mr

Congress resumed the consideration of the requisition for 1785, and the following paragraph being under debate:

Federal buildings in part of the sum appropriated to that use by the resolution of the 20th December, 1784, 30,000.

A motion was made by Mr. [Elbridge] Gerry, seconded by Mr. [David] Howell, to strike out the words, "in part of," and to change 30 into 100; so that it read Federal buildings, the sum appropriated to that use by the resolution of 20 December, 1784, 100,000.

And on the question to agree to this amendment, the yeas and nays being required by Mr. [Elbridge] Gerry,

New Hampshire,		
Mr. Foster,	no	no
Long,	no	
Massachusetts,		
Mr. Gerry,	ay	ay
Holten,	ay	
King,	ay	
Rhode Island,		
Mr. Ellery,	no	div.
Howell,	ay	
Connecticut,		
Mr. Cook,	no	no
Johnson,	no	
New York,		
Mr. Haring,	no	no
Smith,	no	
New Jersey,		
Mr. Cadwallader,	ay	ay
Stewart,	ay	
Pennsylvania,		
Mr. Gardner,	no	no
Jackson,	no	
Pettit,	ay	
Wilson,	no	
Delaware,		
Mr. Vining,	no	no
Bedford,	no	
Maryland,		
Mr. McHenry,	no	no
Hindman,	no	
Virginia,		
Mr. Hardy,	no	no
Grayson,	no	
South Carolina,		
Mr. Pinckney,	no	no
Kean,	no	
Georgia,		
Mr. Houstoun,	no	no
Habersham	no	
Baldwin,	no	

So it passed in the negative.

[William] Ellery and "returned without a report Oct. 20." Roger Alden has noted: "transmitted to the Office f. f. Affairs, June 19th 1788—to be filed." The proceedings of September 22 are also entered in the *Reports of the Secretary of Congress* No. 180.

A motion was made by Mr. [Samuel] Hardy, seconded by Mr. [James] McHenry, to strike out the paragraph: And on the question, shall the paragraph stand part of this requisition? the yeas and nays being required by Mr. [James] McHenry,

New Hampshire,		
Mr. Foster,	no	no
Long,	no	
Massachusetts,		
Mr. Gerry,	ay	ay
Holten,	ay	
King,	ay	
Rhode Island,		
Mr. Ellery,	no	div.
Howell,	ay	
Connecticut,		
Mr. Cook,	no	div.
Johnson,	ay	
New York,		
Mr. Haring,	no	div.
Smith,	ay	
New Jersey,		
Mr. Cadwallader,	ay	ay
Stewart,	ay	
Pennsylvania,		
Mr. Gardner,	ay	div.
Jackson,	no	
Pettit,	ay	
Wilson,	no	
Delaware,		
Mr. Vining,	no	no
Bedford,	no	
Maryland,		
Mr. McHenry,	no	no
Hindman,	no	
Virginia,		
Mr. Hardy,	no	no
Grayson,	no	
South Carolina,		
Mr. Read,	no	no
Bull,	ay	
Pinckney,	no	
Kean,	no	
Georgia,		
Mr. Houstoun,	ay	ay
Habersham,	ay	
Baldwin,	no	

So the question was lost, and the paragraph was struck out.[1]

Office of Secretary of Congress,
Sept. 22, 1785.

Agreeably to Order, the Secretary of Congress reports the following draught of a Commission to G. R. Clarke, R. Butler, R. Howe &

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[1] On this day, according to indorsement and Committee Book No. 191, was read a letter from Oliver Pollock, dated September 22, relating to his petition before Congress. It is in No. 50, folio 507.

S. H. Parsons, the present com^{rs} for negotiating with the Indians in the Northern and Middle department.

The United States in Congress assembled to all who shall see these presents send Greeting:

Whereas we have judged it proper that one or more convention or conventions be held with the Indians residing within the boundaries of the United States of America in the Northern and Middle departments comprehending the whole of the Indians known by the name of the six Nations and all other Indians to the northward and westward of them and as far south as the Cherokees exclusive for the purposes of receiving them into the favour and protection of the United States and of establishing boundary lines of property for separating and dividing the settlements of the citizens of the United States of America from the Indian Villages and hunting grounds and thereby extinguishing as far as possible all occasion of future animosities disquiet and vexation and whereas by our letters patent bearing date the twenty sixth day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty four we nominated, constituted and appointed our trusty and beloved George Rogers Clarke, Oliver Wolcott, Richard Butler, Philip Schuyler, Benjamin Lincoln and Arthur Lee our Commissioners, giving and granting to them or to any three or more of them full power and authority, for us and in our name, to confer, treat, agree and conclude with the said Indians or with any Nation or tribe of Indians within the boundaries of the United States of America or bordering thereon in the Northern and Middle departments aforesaid; and whereas Oliver Wolcott, Philip Schuyler and Benjamin Lincoln have resigned their appointments and Arthur Lee has been by us elected a commissioner of our Board of Treasury; Now therefore know ye, that we have revoked and by these presents do revoke all power and Authority given and granted by our Letters patent aforesaid to the said Oliver Wolcott, Philip Schuyler, Benjamin Lincoln and Arthur Lee, and reposing special trust and confidence in the integrity prudence and ability of our trusty and well beloved Robert Howe and Samuel Holden Parsons have nominated, constituted and appointed them the said Robert Howe and Samuel Holden Parsons our commissioners. And we do by these presents nominate, constitute and appoint the said George Rogers Clarke, Richard Butler, Robert Howe and Samuel Holden Parsons our Commissioners, giving and granting to them the said George Rogers Clarke, Richard Butler, Robert Howe and Samuel Holden Parsons or to any two or more of them full power and authority for us and in our name to confer, treat, agree and conclude with the said Indians or with any nation or tribe of Indians within the boundaries of the United States or bordering thereon in the northern and middle departments aforesaid of and concerning the establishment of peace with the said Indians, the extinguishing their claims and settling boundaries between them and the Citizens of the United States in as ample form and with the same effect as if we were personally present and acted therein, hereby promising to hold valid and to fulfil and execute whatever shall be agreed upon, concluded and signed by our said Commissioners or any two or more of them.

In Testimony whereof we have caused the Seal of the United States of America to be hereunto affixed. Witness his Excellency Richard Henry Lee, President of the United States in Congress assembled this twenty second day of Sept^{r} in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty five and of our Sovereignty and Independence the Tenth.[1]

Agreed to Sept. 22, 1785. R. H. LEE, P.

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[1] This report, in the writing of Charles Thomson, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 180, *Reports of the Secretary of Congress*; in draft form, in the writing of Thomson and Roger Alden, it is in No. 30, folio 291.

SEPTEMBER 22: The following committees were appointed: Mr. [Elbridge] Gerry, Mr. [William Samuel] Johnson, Mr. [Charles] Pettit, Mr. [William] Grayson and Mr. [William] Ellery, on letter of June 26, 1785, from "John Adams: his interview wth the Queen of England: the views of B: respec^{t} the treaty of Commerce and the line of Conduct that ought to be adopted by America." Adams' letter is in No. 84, V, folio 526.

Mr. [William Samuel] Johnson, Mr. [Melancton] Smith and Mr. [Gunning] Bedford, on a memorial of John Franklin, Ebenezer Johnson, Phineas Pierce and Lord Butler "of the dismission of their petition before Congress." This petition dated September 22 is in No. 41, III, folio 326. See *ante*, September 19.

Also a "Letter 21st Sep^{t}, 1785, Timothy Pickering with a letter from Ralph Pomeroy, late Dep^{y} Q. M. for Connecticut, of settling his accounts" was referred to the Board of Treasury to report. See *post*, September 26. Pickering's letter is in No. 78, XVIII, folio 583, Pomeroy's is on folio 587.

Committee Book No. 190.

Sir New York September 24th 1785—

It appeared, during the negotiation of the late treaties with the Western Indians, that, since the Peace with Great Britain, a general confederacy had been formed between the nothern, western, and southern Indians for their mutual defence.

It seemed probable, that this, was done under the auspices of the British; because the Indians, particularly attached to their Interest, were the principal actors in that Business. The Commissioners made it a point to press the treaty with the Six Nations, in order to break this Confederation; and the shewing that treaty to the Indians at McIntosh convinced them, that they had nothing to hope from it.

It therefore seems to me necessary, that exemplifyed Copies of the treaties concluded at Stanwix and McIntosh should be transmitted to the Commissioners for negotiating with the Southern Indians. For it may be relied on, that the British agents there, will deny that such treaties have been executed; and that such exemplifications will be neceſsary to Counteract their aſsertions.

I have thought it my duty to state this to your Excellency, and to request that it may be submitted to Congreſs.

I have the honor to be with the greatest respect
Your Excellency's most Obt. Servant.
Arthur Lee

His Excellency
the President of Congreſs.

Letter 26 Sept 1785
A Lee
Read 26. —

Referred to the Secy of
Congress to take Order

Expenditures in Indian Affairs for the Month of October 1785

1785			Dollars 90ths	Dollars 90ths
Octob. 6	To the	Reverend Samuel Kirkland ~~for~~ articles furnish'd the Oneida Indians in 1780 & 1781 & Services render'd the United States among the Indians of the Six Nations agreeable to Act of Congress of 2d June last		327 45
		Do the Account of Thomas [illegible] for his Services in Collecting prisoners among the Indian Nations and for shoes supplied said prisoners		134 45
11		Hon. Samuel H. Parsons Commissioner for holding treaties with the Indians to enable him to proceed to the place of holding the Treaty with the Western Indians, agreeable to the Resolve of Congress of 10th Instant		160 –
				622 –

Jos. Nourse Reg.

No A.

Expenditures for Surveying Plans

in October 1825

Expenditures for Indian Affairs

from the 1st of October to the 31st of December 1785.

1785		dollars 90ths	dollars 90ths
October 6	To the Revd Samuel Kirkland, for Articles furnished the Oneida Indians in the Years 1780 & 1781 & Services rendered the United States among the Indians of the Six Nations agreeable to Act of Congreſs of 2nd June last	327.45	
" "	Ditto, Aſsignee of Nicholas Jourdaine, for his Services in collecting Prisoners among the Indian Nations, and for Shoes supplied the said Prisoners	134.45	
" 11	Honorable Samuel H. Parsons, Commiſsioner for holding Treaties with the Indians, to enable him to proceed to the Place of holding the Treaty with the Western Indians, agreeable to the Resolve of Congreſs of 10th Instant	160.—	
Novem 1	Richard Butler & Arthur Lee Esqrs Commiſsioners, their Draft of 28th January last, in favor of Edward Butler for his Services as Storekeeper	246.60	
Decem 5	William Neilson, Aſsignee of the Revd John Witherspoon, being for the Education of Thomas & John Killbuck & George White Eyes, three Indian Youths under the Care of Col. George Morgan, at Princeton	77.30	946.

N:6

Expenditures for Indian affairs
from 1st. October to 31st. December
1785

the Date of the former continue it for forty Days longer. And as it may so happen that the Cause in which such Plea may be made, may be the only one before the Court, and it would be a Hardship to keep the Court sitting from Day to Day until the answer aforesaid should arrive, it shall be lawful for the said Court on such a Contingency, to adjourn for a Week, ten Days, or other Term, that they may think expedient.

And it is also ordained by the Authority aforesaid that all Accessaries to Piracy whether before or after the Fact, shall be considered as Principals; but that all Accessaries to Felonies committed on the high Seas, shall be considered by the said Judges, as they are considered by the Laws of the State, in which the Offenders shall be tried as aforesaid. And further that all Lands, Goods and Chattels which may be forfeited on the Convictions before mentioned, shall pass and belong to the State within which such Convictions shall be had, excepting only such Lands as may be in another State, for they shall belong to that other State.

Lastly it is ordained that the Ordinance of the 5th. April 1781 entitled an Ordinance for establishing Courts for the Tryal of Piracies and Felonies committed on the high Seas shall be and hereby is repealed.

Draft of a Commission.

State of ———, *ss.*

To all to whom these Presents shall come,

I ——— Governor, (Lieut. Governor, President, &c, as the Case may be) of the State (or Commonwealth) of   Send Greeting.

Whereas the United States of America in Congress Assembled did on the   day of   in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty five make and publish an Ordinance in the Words following viz^{t} (here recite it verbatim). Now Know Ye that by virtue of the Authority to me by the said Ordinance given, I have nominated constituted and appointed and by these presents do nominate, constitute, and appoint A. B., Esquire, the present Judge of the Court of Admiralty—in and for this State, C. D. of   E. F. of   and G. H. of   and the Majority of them of whom the said   shall always be one, Judges to hear, judge and determine all Piracies and Felonies committed on the high Seas, by any Person or Persons now within this State, or who before the Expiration of this Commission shall come or be brought to the same. In the doing whereof the said Judges are hereby directed to proceed in the manner specified and ordained, in and by the said Ordinance, and to exercise all the Powers and Authorities given to them by the same.

This Commission shall remain in Force forty Days from this Day exclusive, and at the Expiration thereof the said Judges are to return the same to me, or to the Person who may then exercise the executive Power of this State, together with the Records and Minutes of their Proceedings annexed thereto, and certified by an Indorsement, under their Hands and Seals or the Hands and Seals of a Majority of them.

In Witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed my Name, and caused the Great Seal of this State to be affixed.

All Which is submitted to the Wisdom of Congress.

JOHN JAY.[1]

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1785.

Congress assembled. Present, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, South Carolina and Georgia; and from the State of Delaware, Mr. [John] Vining; from Maryland, Mr. [William] Hindman, and from North Carolina, Mr. [William] Cumming.

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[1] This report is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 81, I, folio 405 It is indorsed by Thomson: "Ent. Read 3 Octr, 1785. Monday 10th Octr 1785 assigned for consideration" and by Roger Alden: "Monday 30 April, 1786 assigned for consideration. Referred Mr. Dane, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Kean, Mr King, Mr. Monroe."

On this day, according to indorsement, was read the report of the committee on the petition of William Popham. It was passed verbatim October 19 and the text is there spread on the Journal. See *ante*, April 4 and August 8. The report, in the writing of William Grayson, is in No. 19, V, folio 205.

Also, according to Committee Book No. 190, a letter from Richard Rundolph, dated August 25 and praying payment for flour captured in 1776, was this day read and referred to Mr. [Joseph] Gardner, Mr. [Rufus] King and Mr. [William] Grayson. This committee was renewed October 12, 1787.

Also, the petition of Thomas Pool, praying compensation for services and suffering, was this day referred to the Secretary at War to report, which he did March 27, 1786. Pool's petition, dated September 29, is in No. 42, VI, folio 318.

Also the report of the Committee of September 12 on the letter from the Postmaster General was rendered this day. It was adopted verbatim, October 5, and is there spread on the Journal.

The Committee to whom was referred a Letter from Mr Kirkland of the 14th of September, together with its enclosures submit the following Report—

That from the manner of treating the indians of the Six nations during their alliance with the British Government, and from the assurances made to them that their interest and Happiness would be promoted by their late Alliance with the U. S. it is not only politic, but in the Opinion of the committee highly expedient that an Agent should be appointed without Delay to reside in the country of the Six nations for the purposes stated in a Report from the Secretary at war now before Congress.

Should Congress be of this Opinion and proceed to appoint such Agent,

The committee submit that he be instructed to inform the Oneidas, and also the Cayogon Chiefs, that congress will preserve inviolate the Treaty of Fort Stanwix, concluded between their commissioners and the Chiefs of the Six Nations, and that the Reservations in that treaty in favor of any of the said Tribes will be at all times faithfully regarded by Congress.

That the said Agent be farther instructed in answer to the speech of Joseph Brant to inform that Chief that a Treaty will be held in this month at the mouth of the Great Miami by the Commissioners of Congress with the western Indians; That Col. James Monroe has left congress to be present at that Treaty, and that it is the desire of congress, that the said Chief of the Mohawks should also be there present.

That from the lateness of the season, and the interference which the proposed meeting at Buffalo Creek may have with the treaty at the G. Miami, Congress cannot send any commissioners to attend at the former place; and wish that such proposed meeting may not take place.[1]

[Motion of Delegates of New Hampshire]

Resolved, That the secretary at war deliver to the State of New Hampshire sixteen pieces of Brass Field Artillery and eight ammunition waggons to be returned on the order of Congress or the Secretary at War.[1]

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[1] This report, in the writing of Rufus King, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 19, III, folio 359. The indorsement states that it was read on this day, October 5 assigned for consideration. See *ante*, September 29.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1785.

Congress assembled. Present, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, South Carolina and Georgia; and from the State of New Hampshire, Mr. [Pierse] Long; from Delaware, Mr. [John] Vining; from Maryland, Mr. [William] Hindman, and from North Carolina, Mr. [William] Cumming.

On the report of a committee, consisting of Mr. [William] Houston, Mr. [David] Howell, Mr. [Samuel] Holten and Mr. [William] Grayson, to whom was referred a letter of 9th September, from the postmaster general,

Resolved, That the Secretary of Congress, inform the postmaster general, that the words "accustomed route," mentioned in the resolution of the 7th day of September last, relate to the stage carriages, and that the postmaster

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[1] This motion, in the writing of Abiel Foster, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 36, III, folio 175. The indorsement and Committee Book No. 190 show that it was referred this day to Mr. [Elbridge] Gerry, Mr. [William] Grayson and Mr. [John] Kean, who reported October 5.

October 4: On this day the memorial of Thornton Taylor respecting the settlement of his accounts as commissary of military stores was referred to the Board of Treasury to report.

The letter of October 8, 1784, from Count Florida Blanca to the President of Congress was referred to the Secretary for Foreign Affairs to report, which he did October 6.

The letter of September 8 from Richard Soderstrom was referred to the Secretary for Foreign Affairs to report, which he did October 7. See *ante*, October 3 and September 13.

The letter of September 19, from Benjamin Franklin, announcing his arrival in America and the signing of a treaty with Prussia, was referred to the Secretary for Foreign Affairs to report, which he did October 12. Jay submitted this Franklin letter on October 4 and the letter of submittal is in No. 80, II, folio 5. A transcript of Franklin's letter is in No. 100, II, folio 260.

Committee Book No. 190.

The committee to whom was referred a letter from Mr Kirkland of the 18th of September, together with its enclosures submit the following Report —

That from the manner of treating the indians of the Six nations during their alliance with the British Government, and from the assurances made to them that their interest and Happiness would be promoted by their late Alliance with the U.S. it is not only politic, but in the Opinion of the committee highly expedient that an Agent should be appointed without Delay to reside in the country of the Six nations for the purposes stated in a Report from the Secretary at war now before Congress;

Should congress be of this Opinion and proceed to appoint such Agent,

the committee submit

That he be instructed to inform the Oneidas, and
also
the Cayogon Chiefs that Congress will preserve in-
violate the Treaty of Fort Stanwix, concluded betwe
their commissioners and the Chiefs of the Six
nations, and that the Reservations in that
treaty in favor of any of the said Tribes will
be at all times faithfully regarded by Con-
gress —

That the said Agent be farther instru
ed in answer to the Speech of Joseph Brant, to
~~in this month~~
inform [~~them~~ {~~that a Treaty will be held with~~
~~the western Indians,~~ [illegible]] —
that chief; that a Treaty will be held in this
month at the mouth of the Great Miami, by
the Commissioners of Congress, with the western
Indians; that Col. James Monroe has left Con
gress to be present at that Treaty; and tha
th

It is the desire of Congress that the said Chiefs of the Mohawks should also be there present.

That from the lateness of the Season, and the interference which the proposed ~~treaty~~ meeting at Buffaloe Creek may have with ~~that~~ the treaty at the G. Miami, Congress cannot send any Commissioners to attend at the former place, and wish that such proposed ~~treaty~~ meeting [may not take place]

~~[illegible]~~

~~[illegible]~~

Report on Mr
Kirkland's Letter

Of Sep. 14th 85.

Entd read. 4 Oct 1785

5 Oct assigned for Consideration

11 Oct. assigned for Consideration

New York Octr. 10th 1785

Sir

I was honord with your Letter of the 23d. Ult. informing me that Congreſs had been pleas'd to appoint me a Commiſsioner for holding a Treaty with the Indian Tribes near the River Ohio; I did not receive your Letter until the 30th; I am now prepard to ~~go~~ forward on that Commiſsion ~~whenever~~ I ſhall have received ſuch Instructions as Congreſs ſhall give me - ~~the~~ Journey is long and will be too expensive for me to defray from my own Monies, I hope therefore Congreſs will be pleased to order ſuch Sum to be advanc'd me on Account as will be ſufficient to enable me to proceed to the place of holding the Treaty & to return

I am Sir

your Obedt. Servt.

Sam H. Parsons

Charles Thompson Esq.r

Secretary of Congreſs

Letter 10 Oct 1785
S. H. Parsons
Read [illegible]
Referred to the
Board of Treasury
to take order

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1785.

Congress assembled. Present, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, South Carolina and Georgia; and from the state of New Hampshire, Mr. [Pierse] Long; from Delaware, Mr. [John] Vining; from Maryland, Mr. [William] Hindman, and from North Carolina, Mr. [William] Cumming.

On the report of a committee, consisting of Mr. [Rufus] King, Mr. [Jacob] Read and Mr. [David] Howell, to whom was referred a letter of 24 September, from R. Butler, esq^{r}.

Resolved, That the company of infantry, detached by the secretary at war, in pursuance of the resolution of the 29 of June last, to attend the treaty with the western Indians, to be held at the Mouth of the Great Miami, be, from and after the conclusion of the said treaty, subject to the Orders of lieutenant colonel Harmar, who is hereby directed to post the said troops in such situations, as shall best promote the objects of his instructions, any thing in the resolution of the 29 of June to the contrary notwithstanding.[1]

The delegates for Massachusetts and Virginia having withdrawn their motion of the 7th instant,

On Motion of the delegates of the said states,

Resolved, That a grand Committee be appointed to report what measures are proper for Congress to adopt, to prevent

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thereof, from Mr. Otto and October 11, a letter and sundry enclosures from Mr. [John] Adams.

Also, according to Committee Book No. 190, Mr. [Rufus] King, Mr. [Jacob] Read and Mr. [David] Howell were appointed a committee to consider a letter of September 24 from Richard Butler. They delivered a report this day which was adopted, verbatim, and spread on the Journal October 12. Butler's letter is in No. 56, folio 323.

Also, according to indorsements and that on the extract from the report of the Secretary at War, dated September 12 (No. 151, folio 99), *to wit*: "To be printed—the report on Mr. Kirkland's letter to succeed it—60 copies," the authority for this publication was given this day. A broadside of the combined reports is in the Library of Congress; the printed date line is September 12, but the broadside could not have been issued before October 11. See *ante*, September 12, 14, October 4 and 5.

[1] This report, in the writing of Rufus King, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 19, I, folio 479. See *ante*, October 11.

the ill consequences of a particular district in any State, setting up and claiming the right of independent government, without the consent of the said state and of the United States.

Ordered, That the said committee meet in the Congress chamber, on friday next, at 10 o'clock in the Morning.[1]

On motion of Mr. [Elbridge] Gerry, seconded by Mr. [David] Howell,

Whereas it is indispensibly necessary, for the support of the federal government, that the states should supply their quotas of Money, for the purposes stated in the estimates of the subsisting requisitions of Congress. And whereas [certificates for] the interest arising on loan Office certificates, and other certificates of liquidated debts, previously to the last day of December, 1782, from the deficiencies of some of the states to comply with the requisition of the 4th September, 1782, and 27 and 28 of April, 1784, will, in pursuance of the requisition of the 27th of September, 1785, be issued by the commissioners of the continental loan Offices in such states; And whereas the extra certificates which the said commissioners may issue for the payment of the said interest, should be called in or redeemed by the deficient states, in Order to complete their respective quotas of the interest of the domestic debt, specified in the said requisitions of the 4 September, 1782, and 27 and 28 April, 1784.

Resolved, That the several States be earnestly called on, to compleat without delay, the whole of their quotas of the requisitions last mentioned, and that such of the states as may be deficient in paying their respective quotas of the interest of the domestic debt, pursuant to the said requisitions, be required to collect and pay into the public treasury, the amount of such deficiencies, either in certificates to be issued by the commissioners of the continental loan Offices, pursuant to the requisition of the 27th September, 1785, for the payment of the said interest, or in specie, to be applied to the redemption of such certificates; provided that the sum so to be paid into the treasury in interest certificates, as part of the requisition of the 27 and of 28th April, 1784, shall not at any time exceed the proportion of ~~specie~~ facilities to be paid into the treasury, ~~specified~~ agreeably to the requisition last mentioned.[1]

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[1] According to Committee Book No. 190, the Grand Committee appointed was: Mr. [Pierse] Long, Mr. [Elbridge] Gerry, Mr. [Joseph Platt] Cook, Mr. [John] Haring, Mr. [William Churchill] Houston, Mr. [David] Jackson, Mr. [John] Vining, Mr. [William] Hindman, Mr. [William] Grayson, Mr. [William] Cumming, Mr. [Jacob] Read and Mr. [William] Houstoun, and to it was referred the motion as above stated and also a motion of Mr. Howell, of which no record appears to have been retained. See *post,* October 13. On March 10, 1786, this committee was discharged "and business referred to another G: Com^{ee}"

Office for Foreign Affairs,
11th October, 1785.

The Secretary of the United States for the Department of foreign Affairs to whom was referred a Letter of 19th September last from the Honorable Doctr Franklin late Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of Versailles, &c., Reports—

That as this Letter announces the Return of this Minister to this Country after a long Absence, during which he was concerned in very important and successful Negotiations, it affords a natural Occasion for Congress to take his Services, and the Manner most proper to express their Sense of them, into Consideration.

The Information that Captain Lamb, who was charged with Dispatches respecting the Morocco Business, and who might long ago have been expected in Europe, had not arrived; renders it expedient to forward Duplicates of those Dispatches without Delay.

Agreed to.

The Paragraph which mentions that "the Court of France is concerned to find that our Credit is not better supported in the Payment of the interest Money due on our Loans &c." Should in the Opinion of your Secretary be referred to the Treasury Board.

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[1] This motion, in the writing of Elbridge Gerry, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 36, III, folio 183. According to indorsement by Thomson it was made October 3, and Thursday, October 7, assigned for consideration. A printed copy is on folio 181 on which Thomson has indorsed: "Monday Oct. 10, 1785, Assigned for Consideration." The words in brackets were inserted by Congress and the words lined out so appear in the original motion and not in the Journal.

As to the Present made to Doct^r Franklin by the King of France, your Secretary thinks a like Order should be taken in this Case, which was done in a similar one the 1^st December, 1780.

Order taken concerning this. See letter of Sec^y of Congress 4 March, 1786.

The Doctor in a postcript to his Letter mentions his having transmitted all the original Treaties he had been concerned in negotiating that were compleated, by his late Secretary, this Gentleman who has been many years in that Capacity is his Grandson, of whom in his Letter to Congress of 12^th March 1781 and in others, he makes particular and honorable mention. The following is a list of the Papers which he delivered to your Secretary viz^t—

Original Treaties of Alliance, and of Amity and Commerce with his most Christian Majesty, and the Article separate and secret.

Ratifications of the foregoing Treaties, with the Seal of the last enclosed in a silver Box.

Declaration of the Count de Vergennes relative to the 11^th & 12^th Articles on the Part of his most Christian Majesty.

Original Contracts of 16^th July, 1782. and 25^th February, 1783, with their Ratifications.

Convention respecting Consuls.

Original tobacco Contract with the Farmer's General of France 17^th November, 1781.

Powers to Count de Creutz, Ambassador of Sweden to form a Treaty with America.

Original Treaty with Sweden, and the Ratification of it by the King of Sweden, with the Seal enclosed in a silver Box.

Ratification of the provincial Articles by his Britannic Majesty with the Seal enclosed in a silver Box.

Original definitive Treaty (marked Duplicate) with its Ratification. and the Seal enclosed in a silver Box.

All which is Submitted to the Wisdom of Congress.

JOHN JAY.[1]

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[1] This report is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 81, I, folio 445. According to indorsement it was read this day.

Also, on this day, according to indorsement, was read a letter of October 11 from the Secretary for Foreign Affairs forwarding a copy of a letter from Comte de Vergennes to Benjamin Franklin on the departure of the latter from France. It is in No. 80, II, folio 21; the translation of Vergennes' letter is on folio 26.

ARTICLES of a TREATY,

Concluded at FORT STANWIX, on the twenty-ſecond day of October, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-four, between Oliver Wolcott, Richard Butler and Arthur Lee, COMMISSIONERS PLENIPOTENTIARY from the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, on the one Part, and the SACHEMS and WARRIORS of the SIX NATIONS on the other.

THE United States of America give peace to the Senecas, Mohawks, Onondagas and Cayugas, and receive them into their protection upon the following conditions.

Article 1. Six hoſtages ſhall be immediately delivered to the commiſſioners by the ſaid nations, to remain in poſſeſſion of the United States, till all the priſoners white and black, which were taken by the ſaid Senecas, Mohawks, Onondagas and Cayugas, or by any of them in the late war, from among the people of the United States, ſhall be delivered up.

Art. 2. The Oneida and Tuſcarora nations ſhall be ſecured in the poſſeſſion of the lands on which they are ſettled.

Art. 3. A line ſhall be drawn, beginning at the mouth of a creek about four miles eaſt of Niagara, called Oyonwayea or Johnſon's Landing Place, upon the lake named by the Indians Oſwego, and by us Ontario, from thence ſoutherly in a direction always four miles eaſt of the carrying path, between lake Erie and Ontario, to the mouth of Tehoſeroron or Buffalo creek on lake Erie, thence ſouth to the north boundary of the ſtate of Pennſylvania, thence weſt to the end of the ſaid north boundary, thence ſouth along the weſt boundary of the ſaid ſtate, to the river Ohio, the ſaid line from the mouth of the Oyonwayea to the Ohio, ſhall be the weſtern boundary of the lands of the Six Nations, ſo that the Six Nations ſhall and do yield to the United States, all claims to the country weſt of the ſaid boundary, and then they ſhall be ſecured in the peaceful poſſeſſion of the lands they inhabit eaſt and north of the ſame, reſerving only ſix miles ſquare round the fort of Oſwego, to the United States, for the ſupport of the ſame.

Art. 4. The Commiſſioners of the United States in conſideration of the preſent circumſtances of the Six Nations, and in execution of the humane and liberal views of the United States upon the ſigning of the above articles, will order goods to be delivered to the ſaid Six Nations for their uſe and comfort.

Mohawks,

his
ONOGWENDAHONJI, × ( )
mark.

his
TORWIGHNATOGON, × ( )
mark.

Onondagas,

his
OHEADARIGHTON, × ( )
mark.

his
KENDARINDGON, × ( )
mark.

Senecas,

his
TAYAGONENDAGIGHTI, × ( )
mark.

his
TEHONWAEAGHRIYAGI, × ( )
mark.

OLIVER WOLCOTT, (L.S.)
RICHARD BUTLER, (L.S.)
ARTHUR LEE, (L.S.)

[Signers carried forward.]

OTYADONENGHTI,

[Signers brought forward.]

Omeidas,

OTYADONENGHTI, his x mark ( )

DAYAHEARI, his x mark ( )

Cayugas,

ORAGHGOANENDAGEN, his x mark ( )

Tuſcaro,

ONONGHSAWENGTI, his x mark ( )

THARONDAWAGEN, his x mark ( )

Seneca Abeal,

KAYENTHOGHKE, his x mark ( )

Witneſs.

SAML. JO. ATLEE,
WM. MACLAY,
FRAS. JOHNSON, } *Pennſylvania Commiſſioners.*
AOERONKILL,
ALEXANDER CAMPBELL,
SAML. KIRKLAND, *Miſſy.*
JAMES DEAN
SAML. MONTGOMERY,
DERICK LANE, *Capt.*
JOHN MERCER, *Lieut.*
WILLIAM PENNINGTON, *Lieut.*
MAHLON FORD, *Enſign.*
HUGH PEEBLES.

Treaty at Ft. Stanwix
Oct. 1784 _
Rhd. Butler & others Comrs.

Pittsburgh Octr 27. 1785

Sir

I have the Honor to inform your Excellency of my Arrival here this Morning. General Butler left Fort McIntosh the 2d of Septr and on the 10th Inst. was about three Hundred Miles on his Way to the Miami. Capt. Hutchins with the Surveyors has returned without making very considerable Progreſs, having been informed by the Indians they could not attend on him having been previously call'd to the Treaty at the Miami; this Meſsage was given under such Circumstances as clearly evinced the Diſsatisfaction of the Indian Nations at their proceeding & the impoſsibility of Pursuing the Execution of the Ordinance of Congreſs with any Degree of Safety.

The Reports here concerning the Dispositions and Intentions of the Indians are so various and many of them evidently founded in private Interest that it is extremely difficult to draw any certain Conclusions from them. These Facts however I believe are certain, that some persons have been killd on this Side the Ohio within some little Time: that a Store had been robb'd in the Indian Country & one Man slain; that the Indians have held a great Council lately near the head Waters of the great Miami consisting of All the Nations on this Side the Miſsiſsippi to brighten the Chain of Friendship as they alledge: that the British Officers at Niagara & Detroit, are constantly aſsuring the Indians that those posts are not to be delivered Up to the United States, and that their Lands have not been ceded to the United States, but only placed under their Jurisdiction & protection - As far as I am able to judge, the Indians Suppose the Lands on which they live were originally their Own, they grew out of those Lands as they expreſs it, that the War hath not forfeited their Right to those Lands; and that they cannot be taken from them but by their Consent & on payment of a Sum which they agree to accept: on the whole of the Information I am able to procure I fear that the Indians are not so disposed as to enable the Commiſsioners to accomplish the Object so much desired in the present Treaty: nor can I persuade myself that any permanent Security can be given to our Frontiers until the british Posts at Niagara & the Western Waters are in the Poſseſsion of the United States: I Shall proceed down the River with all poſsible Dispatch and Nothing on my part Shall be unattempted to render the Business of the Commission Successful.

329

I am with great Respect

your Excellency's Obed^t Servant

Sam^l H. Parsons

Letter S. H. Parsons
27 Oct 1785

Read 24 Novr 1785

Commrs of the W. Indian treaty—

(177)

Montreal 11th Nov 1785

Substance of certain Speeches made by the following Chiefs of the Six United Nations to Sir Johnson Bart Superintend^t. General & Inspector Gen^l. of Indian Affairs

Sayenguaraghta — Seneka Chiefs
Taiygaya —— Cayouga
Capt. David —— Mohawk —

After the accustomary Salutations Sayenguaraghta told him that since they had the pleasure of meeting him in Council at Niagara in ~~July 1783~~ they had strictly adhered to the advice he then gave them & never lost sight for a moment of any part of it, by which conduct they hope they have pleased him & their Father the King —

Delivers three Strings of
Black & White Wampum —

Sayenguaraghta then Speaks on a Belt of Black & White Wampum

Brother

We request that you will open your Ears & listen attentively to what we are going to say — We have had a Council at our great Fire place at Niagara with Chiefs & Warriors who were deputed ~~Deputies from the Western Nations who were authorized~~ by

the

all our Brethren to the setting of the Sun. They there reminded us that they have acted conformably to your advice delivered to them thro' us, & that they have laid by the Hatchet, tho' not buryed it — That they have remained quiet a long time & have patiently beheld the Americans making daily encroachmts on ~~them~~ their Lands, but that now their patience is quite worn out, & as they were guided by the advice & Council of ~~the Six Nations~~ us, (their elder Brethren) they expect ~~they~~ we will lead them to the strait road to Peace, & the happiness & tranquility they formerly enjoyed, but at the same time that they are determined to defend with their Lives the rights transmitted to them by their forefathers, and as they have not laid by intirely the only instrument by which they can do themselves Justice they are prepared for ~~this~~ any event that can take place should their views & wishes for Peace be frustrated.

That as they have been hitherto taught to pay that deference due to elder Brethren, to the advice of the Six Nations, they now in the Moment of distress apply to them & desire that the above named Chiefs as the Principals of the 6 Nations will set out on their Journey to meet their Brother, Sir John Johnson on whom their sole dependance is, & make known to him the distressed situation of his Children, and at the same time remind him that in the late War with the Americans they, when called upon, took up the Hatchet in support of the King their Father, when his Children rebelled against him and if the same spirit should still remain amongst ~~them~~ the Americans and that they will not let the Red People be at Peace & persist to forcibly take away their Lands: they ~~hope~~ expect that their Father the King, will afford them every reasonable assistance, by which they can only hope to repel the attempts of their but rather than come to that extremity, they are willing to grant the Americans some Land on their Frontiers, altho' not that extent ~~that~~ they Claim or insist on —

Sayenqueraghta goes on —

Brother

I have now delivered to you the Message I was intrusted with, and I beg that you will give me your Answer that I may be enabled on my return to satisfy ~~my~~ Brethren the Western & Southern Nations & my own People —

Rough Copy, somewhat
altered, of a Speech to made
by Sayenqueraghta to
Sir John Johnson —
Montreal 11th Novr 1783

Rough Copy of a Speech
made by Sayenqueraghta
to Sir John Johnson
Novr 1783

Sir,

Camp, at the mouth of Miami Novr 26th 1785

Since writing the letter of the 10th instant which we have been disappointed from sending till now, we have the satisfaction to inform your Excellency, that notwithstanding all the endeavours of the Emissaries of a neighbouring Power, to persuade the Indian nations that the intentions of the United States are hostile towards them, our Messengers arrived at this place on the 23d and brought with them the Half-king and the Crane, two chiefs of the Wiandots. Pipe, and Wingenum, two captains of the Delawares and two young-chiefs of the Shawanoe nation

Our Messengers and those chiefs inform us, that several principal men from those three nations, have been dispatched sometime since, with speeches from themselves in addition to our messages, to bring on the more westerly tribes; and that they have not a doubt of their attending generally. The two Shawanoe chiefs being now convinced that their nation have been imposed on by the reports of the People mentioned above, and that they have nothing to apprehend as to their safety, are preparing to set out for their towns, to bring their nation on they being prepared for that purpose, and waiting only the return of those men. What the issue of the Treaty may be, is yet uncertain. But from present circumstances

we have reason to hope that it will be satisfactory and ad=
vantageous to the United States

We are pleased to find from a declaration made
yesterday in Council by the Chiefs of the Wiandots and Delawa
in the Presence of the Shawnoes, that they are well satisfied at th
Treaty concluded last fall, and are determined as far as possible
to adhere to it strictly; that they are grieved to find, that some
of their ungovernable young people, pay too much attention to
ill-advisers, and have recently committed some injuries on
the Persons and property of some of our Citizens. In those declara
tions we observed a frankness, which bears all the marks of sinceri

We shall take every opportunity of informing you
Excellency of occurrences, and hope you will rest assured of our
utmost endeavours to effect a general peace, and to bring matters
to a close with these Savage tribes, as much for the honor and
interest of the United States as possible

(With great respect Sir)

We have the honor to be
your Excellency's most obed.t

His Excelly
The Presid.t of Congress

Clark
Rich.d Butl

P.S. We were made happy by the arrival of the hon.ble Major General Parsons, a few days since who we find is added to the Commission, and has joined us in the business

No. 7

Letter Novr. 26 1785

Commrs. for treating western Indns.

Read 8 feby 1786

(No. 10)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1785.

Congress assembled. Present, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, South Carolina and Georgia; and from the State of New Hampshire, Mr. [Pierse] Long, and from Connecticut, Mr. [William Samuel] Johnson.

[*Resolved*,] That the expenditure for the support of the President's household under the resolution of the 21st November, 1781, including [the salary of] his private secretary [house rent, steward and servants wages and all other expenses whatsoever], shall not exceed the rate of Twelve thousand dollars [pr annum] yearly commencing on the first Monday in November.[1]

The Board of Treasury to whom was Referred the memorial of William Colbrath, Praying Compensation for a Quantity of Rum seized from himself and Partners at Fort Schuyler by an Officer in the service of the United States on the 5th Day of October, 1784, beg leave to Report—

That it appears from the Examination of the Reverend Mr Kirkland, who was present at Fort Schuyler at the time the Seizure above referred to was made, that it was done by the Officer referred to in said Memorial, in consequence of Orders received by him from the Commissioners appointed by Congress for managing the Treaty then holding with the Six Nations.—

That, previous to the said Seizure, an Advertisement was published by the said Commissioners stating the ill consequences which must ensue from the Sale of Spiritous Liquors to the Savages during the Treaty, and prohibiting the Vent on the pain of Seizure. That the said Advertisement further purported that at the close of the Treaty free liberty would be given to Trade with the Indians.—

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[1] Two drafts of this resolve, in the writing of John Kean, are in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 140, II, folios 119 and 121. The brackets show the verbal variations. The second draft (folio 121) is indorsed by Thomson: "Motion of Mr. Kean . . . Novr. 30, 1785 Referred to Mr. [John Cleves] Symmes, Mr. [John] Lawrance and Mr. [William Samuel] Johnson. The motion was made, apparently, on the letter from the Board of Treasury November 25, 1785, transmitting, by order of Congress, a report on the expenditures for the President's household. This letter and report are in No. 140, II, folios 111 and 115. See *post*, December 28.

On this day, as the indorsement indicates, was read a letter from Edward Fox, Commissioner of Hospital Accounts, relative to a letter from Dr. Jonathan Arnold. It is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 31, folio 117.

Also, a petition from Robert Waupie and other Indians who had settled on the Oneida lands, which was referred to the Secretary at War to report. The indorsement states that he reported Dec. 27, 1785. The petition is in No. 56, folio 411.

Also, a letter of November 28 from John Fox. It is in No. 78, IX, folio 551.

That, notwithstanding this public Caution, M^r^ Kirkland states, that the business of the Treaty was retarded for some days, owing to the Indians obtaining Liquor. In consequence of which all Spiritous Liquors belonging to private Persons then on the Ground was Seized by order of the Commissioners, and deposited in a locked Public Store under proper Guards

That, at the close of the Treaty, he understood the Liquors in general had been returned to the Proprietors. That he was present in the Store of a Partner of said Colbrath, when the Rum seized from that Company was deposited at the Door of the said store; and that he heard General Butler (one of the Commissioners for holding the Treaties) desire the said Partner to Receive the Rum

That, although Rum was taken from several other persons, he heard no Complaints of loss sustained thereby, except in the case of the Memorialist: and that he has understood that the Rum, for which payment is now Claimed, was during the last Winter in possession of a certain person of the name of Armstrong at Fort Schuyler, a Connection of the said Colbrath

That it appears from the information of the said Samuel Kirkland, that he had been frequently present at Indian Treaties held under the former Government; and that the Sale of Spirituous Liquors was constantly prohibited by Sir William Johnson, then Superintendant of Indian Affairs, during the time of the Treaty, under Penalty of Seizure.

The Board beg leave further to Report, That it appears from the examination of Arthur Lee Esq^r^, one of the late Commissioners of Indian Affairs, that process has been served against him in this City, at the suit of the Memorialist for the Recovery of Damages alledged to have been sustained in consequence of the Seizure aforesaid

From these Considerations the Board submit to the Judgement of Congress the following Resolve

That the Memorial of William Colbrath be dismissed

All which is humbly submitted.[1]

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[1] This report, signed by Samuel Osgood and Walter Livingston, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 138, I, folio 147. The indorsement states that it was read this day.

Nov^{r} 16th, 1785.

The Board of Treasury, to whom was Referred the Memorial of William Hoskins, an Assistant to the late Commissary General Trumbull, Setting forth that a proper Compensation had not been made to him for his services, on a settlement with the Commissioner who was specially appointed by Congress to Settle the Accounts of the late Commissary General Trumbull, and Praying that the said Settlement might de disannulled, and that the present Commissioner for Settling Accounts in the Commissary General's Department might be directed to Adjust the same, beg leave to Report—

That having referred the said Memorial to the consideration of the Commissioner for Settling the Accounts of the Commissary General's Department, the said Commissioner has Reported it as his Opinion, that no farther Allowance ought to be made to the said William Hoskins.

The Board therefore submit to the consideration of Congress the following Resolve:

That the Memorial of William Hoskins late an Assistant in the Commissary Generals Department, praying that the former Adjustment of his Account by the Commissioner duly Authorised for such purpose may be Revised, and that a farther compensation be made him, cannot be complied with [1]

The Board of Treasury to whom was referr'd on the 20th September last the Memorial of Jonathan Trumbull Jun^{r} praying that Congress would be pleased to order payment of some part of the balances due to him for his long and persevering services during the late War, beg leave to Report—

That your Memorialist amongst other certificates due to him for the services rendered by him to the United States is possest of a Certificate for 1,752 Dollars $^{53}/_{90}$ths, Issued to him for his services as Special Commissioner in Settling the Accounts of the late Commissary General Trumbull—which appointment may be properly considered as an appendage of the Civil Establishment.

That the claim of M^{r} Trumbull for the attention of Congress to the prayer of the Memorial derives additional weight from the consideration, that he is one of those Officers who was attached to the person of the late Commander in Chief at the close of the War, with whose interests the United States in Congress have particularly charged themselves by their Act of the 23^d December 1784.

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[1] This report, signed by Samuel Osgood and Walter Livingston, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 138, I, folio 601. According to the indorsement it was read this day and passed, February 1, 1786. The letter of the Commissioner for settling the accounts of the Commissary General's Department, dated May 14, 1785, is on folio 605.

From this consideration the Board of Treasury submit to the consideration of Congress the following Resolve:

That the Comptroller cause the Certificate given to M^r Jonathan Trumbull Commissioner for Settling the Accounts of the late Commissary General Trumbull amounting to 1,752 Dollars $^{53}/_{90}$ths to be cancelled, and that the Board of Treasury take order for paying the same from the requisition of the year 1784[1]

Nov^r, 1785.

NOVEMBER 18th, 1785

The Board of Treasury to whom was referred, a motion of the Hon'ble Mr. Gerry of the 2^d November last, Beg leave to Report—

That a number of Loan Office Certificates issued from the Respective offices since the first of March, 1778, don't exceed when reduced by the scale, the sum of Twenty five Dollars in specie, and that a very great proportion of them, not more than Five Dollars.

That this multiplicity of Certificates of small value occasions great embarrassments and expense in the liquidation of interest due on such Certificates.

That it has been represented to this Board, that numbers of the Holders of the Certificates above described, are desirous to have the same cancelled, and the number reduced by consolidating several small Certificates into one of a greater amount. From these considerations, the Board submit to the Opinion of Congress the following Resolve:

That all Holders of Loan Office Certificates issued since the first of March, 1778, be authorised to present the same to the Loan office of the State in which such Certificates issued, in order that the specie value thereof may be liquidated; and that on the former Certificates being given up Specie Certificates of the same value shall be issued agreeably to such form and in such sums as the Board of Treasury may direct; provided that no Certificate issue for a less sum than One hundred Dollars, and that the Papers, Checks and Devices of the new

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[1] This report, signed by Samuel Osgood and Walter Livingston, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 138, II, folio 455. According to the endorsement it was read this day and referred, July 22, 1788, to Mr. [Nathan] Dane, Mr. [Hugh] Williamson and Mr. [Abraham] Clark. Their report was acted on July 28, 1788.

Certificates, resemble as nearly as may be the old Certificates, which shall be transmitted as vouchers of Re-issue to the Comptrollers office.[1]

OFFICE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
28th November, 1785

The Secretary of the United States for the Department of foreign Affairs, to whom was referred his Letter of 24th Inst. to his Excellency the President, with Mr Temple's Commission, Reports—

That John Temple Esquire, has presented to the United States in Congress assembled, a Commission in due Form bearing Date the fifth Day of February last—from his britannic Majesty, constituting and appointing him the Consul General of his said Majesty in these States.

That there is as yet no commercial Treaty or Convention subsisting between his britannic Majesty and the United States, whereby either have a perfect right to establish Consuls in the Dominions of the other; but that amicable Negociations for that, and other reciprocal privileges, are now depending.

That altho' the Issue of those Negociations is as yet uncertain; it will nevertheless be proper for the United States on this, and every other Occasion, to observe as great a Degree of Liberality as may consist with a due Regard to their national Honor and welfare. Wherefore, in the Opinion of your Secretary, it should be

Resolved, That the said John Temple Esqr be, and he hereby is, received and recognized as Consul General of his britannic Majesty throughout the United States; and that his Commission be registered in the Secretary's Office.

Resolved, That all the Privileges, Preeminences and Authority which the Laws of Nations and of the Land, give to a Consul General received by the United States from any Nation with whom they have no commercial Treaty or Convention, are due to the said John Temple, and shall be enjoyed by him.

Ordered, That certified Copies of the above Resolutions be transmitted to the Executives of the different States for their information.

All which is submitted to the Wisdom of Congress

JOHN JAY.[2]

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[1] This report, signed by Samuel Osgood and Walter Livingston, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress,* No. 139, folio 89. According to the indorsement it was read this day and passed February 1, 1786. The vote is recorded by Thomson on the report.

[2] This report is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress,* No. 81, I, folio 499. According to indorsement it was read this day. See *post,* December 1 and December 2.

OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF CONGRESS,
Nov^{r} , 1785.

The Secretary of Congress begs leave to report, that in pursuance of the report of the Com^{ee} on the subject of reprinting the Journals, which was referred to him to take Order he has caused "the most public notice to be given to the different printers in the several States, and requested them to send to his Office on or before the first Monday in this Month the terms on which they will engage to reprint the said Journals in folio and deliver one thousand copies thereof bound in boards. That in Consequence of this Notice he has received proposals from sundry printers. It now remains to decide which of those proposals shall be accepted, and to enter into stipulations for the performance of the work. For these purposes the Secretary of Congress submits,

Agreed to. D[avid] R[amsay, Chairman].

That the proposals of the several printers with the specimens be referred to a committee.[1]

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[1] This report, in the writing of Charles Thomson, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 180, *Reports of the Secretary of Congress*. The report was apparently submitted in November, after the 23d. According to the entry in Committee Book No. 190, the proposals of the printers were referred on December 28 to Mr [John Bubenheim] Bayard, Mr. [Rufus] King and Mr. [Stephen Mix] Mitchell, who delivered a report January 30, 1786. See *ante*, June 21.

NOVEMBER 30: The following committee was appointed: Mr. [Charles] Pinckney, Mr. [William Samuel] Johnson, Mr. [John] Lawrance, Mr. [Rufus] King and Mr. [Pierse] Long, on the memorial of General John Sullivan for depreciation of pay. This was a renewal of the committee of April 4, 1785, and to it was referred the memorial of Colonel Moses Rawlings for commutation. A report was rendered on Rawlings June 22, 1786. A copy of Rawlings' petition by James McHenry, dated November 28, 1785, is in No. 41, VIII, folio 361.

Also a letter from the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, dated November 26, was read, forwarding a letter from Captain Lewis Littlepage. The matter was referred back to said Secretary to report and the report was rendered December 27. Jay's letter is in No. 80, II, folio 69.

Also a memorial of Captain John Sullivan, praying for arrears of pay and commutation was this day referred to the Secretary at War to report. This report was read December 27; the memorial is in No. 38, folio 209.

Also a "petition of sundry Indians for assistance" was referred to the Secretary at War to report. See *post*, December 27.

Committee Book No. 190.

Also on this day was read a letter from the Board of Treasury announcing the arrival of the monument of Gen. Richard Montgomery. It is dated November 28 and is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 140, II, folio 123.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1785.

Congress assembled. Present, as yesterday.

~~The Secretary of the United States for the department of foreign affairs, to whom was referred his letter, of 24 November to his Excellency the President, with Mr. Temple~~'s ~~commission, having reported,~~

"~~That John Temple, esq^{r}, has presented to the United States in Congress assembled a commission in due form, bearing date the fifth day of February last, from~~ [his] ~~Britannic Majesty, constituting and appointing him the consul general of his said Majesty in these states. That there is as yet no commercial treaty or convention subsisting between his Britannic Majesty and the United States whereby either have a perfect right to establish consuls in the dominions of the other; but that amicable negotiations for that and other reciprocal privileges are now depending. That although the issue of those negotiations is as yet uncertain, it will nevertheless be proper for the United States on this and every other occasion to observe as great a degree of moderation and liberality as may consist with a due regard to their national honor and welfare~~".

~~and thereupon reported that it be~~

~~*Resolved*,~~ "~~That the said John Temple,~~ esq^{r}~~, be received and recognized as consul general of his Britannic Majesty throughout the United States, and that his commission be registered in the Secretary~~'s ~~office. That all the privileges, preeminences and authority which the laws of nations and of the land give to a consul general received by the United States from any nation with whom they have no commercial treaty or convention are due to the said John Temple and shall be enjoyed by him. That certified copies of the above resolutions be transmitted to the executives of the different states for their information~~".

~~The foregoing report being under debate,~~

~~A motion was made by Mr.~~ [~~Melancton~~] ~~Smith, seconded by Mr.~~ [~~Rufus~~] ~~King, that the further consideration of the report be postponed, in order to reconsider the resolution passed on the 28 of October last in the words following:~~ "~~Whereas it is expedient that consuls should be appointed in the different states with which the citizens of the United States are engaged in commerce;~~

~~*Therefore Resolved*, That the ministers plenipotentiary of the United States in Europe, and where there is no minister the chargé des Affaires shall exercise the powers~~".[1]

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1785.

Congress assembled. Present, as before.

The secretary of the United States for the department of foreign affairs, to whom was referred his letter of the 24th November, to his excellency the president, with Mr. J. Temple's commission, having reported,

"That John Temple, esq. has presented to the United States in Congress assembled, a commission in due form, bearing date the 5th day of February last, from his Britannic majesty, constituting and appointing him the consul general of his said majesty in these states. That there is as yet no commercial treaty or convention subsisting between his Britannic majesty and the United States, whereby either have a perfect right to establish consuls in the dominions of the other, but that amicable negotiations for that and other reciprocal privileges are now depending: That although the issue of those negotiations is as yet uncertain, it will nevertheless be proper for the United States, on this and every other occasion, to observe as great a degree of liberality as may consist with a due regard to their national honor and welfare;" therefore,

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[1] On this day, according to Committee Book No. 190, a letter of November 30 from Wilhelm and Jan Willink and a letter of August 30, 1785, from N. and J. Van Staphorst were referred to the Board of Treasury to report.

Remaining on hand at the close of the Treaty in Sept. 1784 five Batteaux which said Batteaux have been again made use off at the treaty at Fort Herkerman in June 1785. There is one delivered to the Surveyor General as Pr. his rect. inclosed, three are safely lodged at Schonectady and the other remaining one the Indians took with them with their provisions to Fort Schuyler where it remains— The Commissioners have endeavoured to dispose of them but have not been able to find Purchasers—

Albany 23d. Decr. 1785.

Henry Glen
Abm Cuyler
Commissioners

State of 5 Batteaux
belong.g to the State
23d. Decr. 1785.

697

Board of Treasury Decr 29th 1785

Sir

On the 15th of last Month, my Colleagues mention'd in their Report to Congreſs on the Memorial of William Colbraith — That Proceſs had been serv'd upon me, in this City, at the Suit of the Memorialist for Recovery of Damages, alledged to have been sustain'd in Consequence of the Seizure of his Spirituous Liquors at Fort Stanwix, during a Treaty with the Six Nations.

I think it my Duty Sir to inform Congreſs, that I have given Bail to the Sheriff, and Employ'd Counsel to answer the Suit: that I have also desired the Counsel to move the Court for Breach of Priviledge in all Persons, concern'd in Iſsuing the Writ of Arrest against me.

I conceive the Office I hold under the United States, covers me from Arrest on Civil Proceſs in Every State, Composing the Union; and that I was not at Liberty to let the Priviledges of the Officers of the United States be violated in me. The Law of Nations, by which Every State is bound, will apply equally whether Such Officers are consider'd as those of the

Supreme Sovereign Power of all the States, or those of Ambaſsadors aſsembled together from Each State.

Whether I am right in what I have done, I beg Leave to ſubmit to Congreſs; requesting their Orders: either to proceed in the Question of Priviledge, or confine myself to defending the Suit for Damages.

I have the Honor to be with the most
perfect Respect, Your Excellency's
most Obed^t. Humble Serv^t.
Arthur Lee

His Excellency,
The President of
Congreſs.

Letter 29 Decr 780
A Lee

Read 29 Decr.

Diary of Rev Samuel Kirkland, copy from "Letters on Indian Affairs, 1785-1825", in the New York State Library, Albany.

Page 1 In the summer of 1786 - I was informed by the oneida Indians - that several white persons, (names unknown) had obtained leases of small tracts of land of the Onondago's or rather vagrant Tuscaroras on the ojenango sawegea branches of the Susquehannah.-

October-18-1786-was credibly informed that Saml Brown and others had purchased a considerable tract of land of the onondago's on the ojencango Sawegea Creeks.-

[illegible]

In March 1787 several Chiefs of the Seneka nation, told me that Tremper & Company indian traders at Kanadasegea, had obtained a lease of a considerable tract of land, at Newtown on the Tioga- bounded south on the Pensylvania line to extend about 20 miles east & west and on said line & about 8 or ten miles wide.—

About this time, the oneidas, told me, they had leased a tract of one mile square on Canada Creek (so called) at its junction with Wood Creek—to Archibald Armstrong for the term of thirty years.—

Page 2 Sometime in the summer of 1787, I was credibly informed by the onondagos and some of the oneidas, that the former had leased a tract of land to Hezekiah Alcot—Indian trader, and Wm Parris of Kanajoharry—on the Kanaghsorage Creek to begin at its mouth or entrance into the oneida Lake—2½ miles on each side of the river, and to extend 5 miles up said river.

So soon as this negociation was publicly known to the oneidas—it gave general uneasiness,—as they claimed the lands on said river, by ancient tradition and national agreement.

The onondagos were summoned by the oneidas to council on the occasion - when they agreed to relinquish their pretended claim on the Kanaghsorage creek - and to satisfy the Lessees, would grant them the same quantity, viz. of five miles square, at the three rivers, so called - By indian relation to me - writings for the latter tract were given by the onondagos.

In the latter part of Octobr. 1787, or begining of November - the oneidas, in a Council called for other purposes - told me they had leased a township of six miles square, to their friend Jedidiah Phelps, silversmith at Fort Stanwix for the annual quit rent of 500 3d page skipples of corn, to be ground to be ~~fore~~ free and delivered to them - with some other small considerations. -

They also informed me, they had agreed, to lease another township or ten miles square, south of the Brothertown Indians, on the line of property-to-Van Eps-silversmith, of Schenactidy and Hezekiah Abeott-Indian trader. The quit rent to be in proportion to the aforementioned lease to their friend Mr. Phelps. About this time-application was made to the oneidas, in full council, by Major Moses Ashley of Berkshire-Massachusetts-to purchase, or take by lease, a small tract of land-of a triangular form, lying north of a tract,-purchased by Brown and others of the onondaga's-supposed to contain by estimation, three townships. The Indians agreed to a lease of said tract-but utterly declined an absolute sale-upon Major Ashleys request the Indians promised in presence of Mr Dean and myself, not to offer the said tract to any other person, till said Ashley should see them again on the subject, in the month of Jan.y or Feb.y following - In the meantime Sd. Ashley was to apply to the Legislature of the state of N. York respecting the premises. Major Ashley 4th page likewise made application to the Onondagas - for one mile in width to be annexed to, the purchase of Alcott and Parris - at the three Rivers - the pay to be in proportion to theirs - It was accordingly promised to him.

The Oneidas, likewise informed me, that several other applications were made to them for the lease of a Township north of the one they had leased to Mr. Phelps - on the line of property - also for a township at Hanaghsoraga. About this time it was reported among the Indians that Col. John Livingston and others were holding a treaty at Kanadasegea with the five nations to obtain a lease of their territory - which idea was suggested to me at Albany, on my return from Stockbridge to Oneida.

In the forepart of December — Col. John Livingston and Dr. Caleb Benton, returned from Kanadasegga by way of Oneida. Their negociations with the five nations, in obtaining a lease of their territory, with reserves to the Indians,- and in January 1788 the lease they obtained of the Oneidas - have been made known heretofore.- In March 1788 the Oneidas told me that they had leased a certain tract of land to Capt. Colbreath of Fort Stanwix, lying south of the settlement of Stockbridge Indians —

4th page At this time two of the Onondaga's informed me that they had leased a tract of land to Mr. George Harkimer of German Flatts - lately This tract was to begin at the Oswego falls - on the south side of the River to contain about ten miles square —

March 7 1788. I set out from Stockbridge for the Indian country - at the desire of the Honl. Oliver Phelps Esq. of Hampshire - state of Massachusetts - having received an appointment from said commonwealth, to superintend and approve of such purchase as the said Oliver Phelps should make of the native Indians holding the right of soil in the western territory, so called, and lately ceded by the state of N. York to the commonwealth aforesaid.— The 2nd of June arrived at Kanadasegea where it was expected to find the Indians already convened for the purpose of a treaty. The Honbl Mr. Phelps informed me that Col. John Livingston and others of the New York Company of Lesses had contracted with him for a certain number of shares, to extinguish by purchase the native right of the Indians, in the Massachusetts cession—or preemption right—which was to be effected by the first of June.— That the time was now passed—and nothing like to be 6th page done on this part. He, the said Phelps—had determined to take measures to bring about a treaty with the Seneka Indians and dissolve the contract with said

Lessees - But upon his making known his intentions, Dr. Benton and Gilbert Agents for the N. York company - requested him with such importunity to give them a farther opportunity, that he had consented.—

About the 13th of June - six messengers arrived from Buffaloe Creek - with an invitation from the Chiefs there to remove the proposed council at Kanadasegea to the Buffaloe - at the same time, utterly refusing to attend at the former - as that was not the proper place of meeting of the five nations the treaty then last fall was partial.—

In the course of a few days - set out in company with the messengers, Dr. Benton and Gilbert - Dean and Smith Interpreters - Mon. Debarge. On the second day of our journey met Mr. Phelps and Lee - Major Peter Schuyler and Capt. Wendell - who informed me that they had been to Niagara and had a Conference with Coll. Butler -

Deputy Agent of Indian affairs) respecting the treaty— they told me that the Indians were so prejudiced against the Lessee— or N. York | company— that nothing could be effected by them— that Mr. Phelps only must appear as the other person in the treaty.

w page

But after our arrival at the Buffaloe and the business of the treaty was entered upon— The Indians addressed Mr. Phelps as representing a distinct body from the agents of the N. York company— and thro— the whole course of the treaty which continued for near two weeks— When Mr. Phelps had accomplished his business with the Indians— Dr. Benton and Elias Gilbert Esqr. produced a writing for the Indians to sign, specifying a release of the Massachusetts cession— so called— at the same time claiming right by lease to all the lands east of the eastern line of the aforesaid Massts. cession to the territory of the Oneida nation— including all the claims of the

Cayoga and Onondago tribe of Indians - with certain reserves to the Indians in their respective territories - This writing, or lease, as I was informed, was grounded upon the lease taken at Kanadasegea in Novemr 1787. In the foregoing instrument the agents of the N. York Genesee company stipulated to give the Indians of the five nations

8th page

the sum of 15000 dollrs the one half in goods, the other moiety in specie - to be paid at three different payments - viz one third next May or June - an other third at the expiration of a year & so on and after three years an annual quit rent of 1000 dollars - the one half of which to be paid in specie - the other in neat cattle at a reasonable price -

The above mentioned lease was accordingly signed by the Chiefs and Warriors of the six nations, in regular order, by the assistance of Capt. Brant, witness by Col. Butler - myself and others present on the occasion - about the 9th of July -

Previous to the signing of the foregoing instrument I heard Capt. Brant tell the Indians that the Lessees had engaged and promised to settle the whole matter with the Legislature of N. York - which removed the objections the Indians had to treating with them till next spring - on account of the Governor's letter to them - some days after our return to Kanadasegea, about the 13th or fourteenth of July - I was desired to attend a council at Kanadasegea. I make declaration as Superintendent of the Treaty at Buffalo creek, of Mr Phelps's negociation with the Indians there. P

* pg. At this council were the Spruce Carrier and

Haghaightakatwo chiefs of Kalinghyadilon and about 80 warriors - who were not present at the Buffaloe - with some who had come from that place since the treaty - While I was in the counsel - there were several speeches delivered by the Indians to Colo. Livingston, Dr. Benton and Gilbert - in the course of these speeches, the Sprouce Carrier and Haghayhtako declared their intentions to meet the Governor of New York at Fort Stanwix at the time appointed for his treaty.

The following

Journal of S Kirkland. Missy

is printed in

Buffallo & the Senecas, by Wm Ketchum 97 x. 110,

The printed version has been punctuated and made grammatical

New York January 13th 1786

Sir

When I received Your favor of the 15th ult: I was so engaged in preparations for my Journey from Albany to this place, that I was constrained to defer an Answer until my arrival here—

Anxious to avert the calamities ever attendant on a war with Savages I conceived it proper during the late war to avail myself of a wish, which Abraham the chief Sachem of the Mohawks, a man of great consideration in the confederacy of the Six nations, had repeatedly expressed, that he might be permitted to try the effects of his influence on the Mohawk and other Indians who had Joined the Enemy, I do not know what became of his Implements of Husbandry & his Stock. It is probable they were lost in his absence, but I suppose not in the manner he states it.—

The Corporation of Albany had the reversion of the Indian lands near Fort Hunter, both from the ~~Crown~~ their Sovereign of the Country and from the Indians, on the Contingency (as I understand) of the latter leaving ~~the Country~~ those lands to reside elsewhere,

Schroyne was no Officer under the United States, he was a Captain (as he himself informs me) under the Crown of Great Britain in the war which preceded the last between Britain & France hence he is not intitled to any half pay nor do I conceive that he has any Just pecuniary or other Claim on the United States ~~having~~

to induce them to desist from hostilities against us

I embraced the occasion afforded me by the necessity of sending a flag to Niagara with a letter relative to some of our prisoners in the hands of the British or Indians, of employing Abraham in the manner he had proposed, and altho' I believed that his sentiments and those of Johannis Tehorye were not friendly to us, because of their great attachment to the Johnson family, yet I concluded, that as they had both made permanent establishments, and lived comfortably as farmers, they might really wish to put an end to the hostilities of the Indians least the consequences should prove fatal to themselves, I permitted them to be the bearers of my letter accompanied by two Oneidas who had manifested their zeal for us on several occasions, and one of which was was a man of great good sense, to these Oneidas I gave such instructions as I conceived necessary in the then situation of affairs. The four proceeded to Niagara and delivered my letter, after which the Oneidas entered into the negociations which I had pointed at in my Instructions to them, but, ~~whether~~ betrayed by the two Mohawks, or by those they negociated with their business was discovered. & they were closely confined ~~and a few days~~ as were the two Mohawks a few days, afterwards, how long they continued confined I don't know. but it is certain that in 1780. Schmyne was of the party with Sir John Johnson in his predatory incursion on the Mohawk river ~~and altho he~~ & I am informed he pleads com-pulsion, but I am rather inclined to think he was a volunteer, as he might very easily have left Sir John Johnson when in the Country which he did not do, but returned to Niagara where he remained until the peace was concluded

Speeches made by the
Ottawa Chiefs to
Chiefs of the Caughnawaga
Feby 1786

At a Council called by the three Outawa Chiefs at Sault S
in behalf of their Chiefs of Michilimackinac in presence of Mess
Lorimier & La Mothe Interpreters for the Iroquois and Mr. Joseph Ain
Interpreter for the Outawas ——

Poquoquiennat presented the Great Medals of the Outawas in Say
Brethren I must beg you will Excuse me Should I not at this time De

in Council but the Chiefs of our Village would have me [illegible]
of these Words therefore I request of you that you Will Join with and
assist me with your best Indeavours that you may Comprehend Clearly
What I mean to say to you in behalf of our Chiefs ——

The Same Speaker rises and with a Calumet in his hand Addres
himself to the Chiefs of the Iroquois says — Brethren Our Chief
Michilimackinac have Sent us here to tell You that they have
heard it two years ago and they are Convinced that [illegible]

pres

Alliance of our forefathers which was always dear to them and t
New one has Cleared the sky in our Hearts which Appeared Darken
In remembrance of this Alliance we are Come to light with You
our Calumet of Peace, and Hope you will Accept it with as much
as we Offer it —— and in Offering it to You we Suppose ourselves
to the Seven Villages of these parts in the Environs of Which are
Allies and they are Also Ours —— You know it has Always
been a Custom to Come to your fires to Speak of Whate

the Well being of the Indian Nations — Wherefore We are Come to see you with Permission of Our Father Sir John Johnson

the approbation was General in the Assembly and all the Chiefs began to Smoke —— A few Minutes after the Same began Again —

Brethren — The Calumet Which you Now Receive is to remain in your Village and we hope that no Nation shall Ever be able to Wrest it from you, that all your Chiefs, Warriors, young Men, Women & Children may always live in Peace a [illegible] the Smoke of Our Calumet may rise straig [illegible] Whom Alone we Pray that he may ever prevent the birds of Prey (or Wicked Birds) from Having Sufficient Authority Over our Hearts to make us Enemies — and Should it ever Happen that any Nation Should Attempt to Break the Stem of our Calumet we Shall be always ready to come and Give you every Succours in our Power and we think that on your Part you will do the Same as Well as the Seven Villages Hereabout in Order that the fire Which is lighted Amongst [illegible] never be Extinguished and we pray the Giver of Life that he [illegible] your Sentiments with ours. — All the [illegible] Accepted the Calumet of the Outawa's with Universal Approbation —

The Same Speaker with String of Wampum in his Hands rose and say. Brethren as Ancient Allies (or as Anciently allied together) Give me your Hands, and as it might be that some Rust may be formed between your Skin and ours we now wash it off same and press them with all our Hearts in Hopes that we may never be Separated

The Same addressing Himself to All the Chiefs of the Iroquois with ~~the~~ Strings of Wampum in his Hand — Brethren — Now

that

Now that you have heard the Subject of our Journey we are g° to give you a Proof of our Sincerity, and as we never listen to any Speeches but such as Come from Yourselves we Come to Inform you that there has been Wicked Birds in our Village — and they Came Some Again Yesterday but we do not Understand their Language, nor will we Listen to any Speeches but those which Come in the Name of our Father the King of England Persuaded that he is yours Also Seeing that we have never been so Happy as since he had the Charge

[illegible]

Who in the time of our greatest Distress has [illegible] us with his Benefactions and has Continually ~~given~~ Supplied our Wants — 'tis this same Father that keeps the Sky Clear Amongst us that Levels our Grounds and Makes our Lakes Calm —

therefore in Gratitude for all his Goodness We pray the Giver of Life to prolong his Days and Continue his Beneficent Heart in the Same Disposition towards his Poor Indian Children — And we believe that You as well as us will Always be ready [illegible]

in [illegible]

[illegible] Chiefs of Michilimackinac and its Environs ——

delivered in Feby 1786 —

To the Honorable the Legisla-
ture of the State of New York in
Senate and Assembly Convened

The Petition of Johannes Crine a Mohawk
Chief in behalf of himself and Others of the Mohawk Nation

umbly Sheweth

That the Mohawk Indians, from time Immemorial have lived at Tiondarogue, since called Fort Hunter, And Occupied a Tract of Land on both sides the Schoharry Creek, at the place where said creek falls into the Mohawk River, containing of Upland, Interval, and Low Lands, Near three Thousand Acres —

That at the commencement of the Late War between The King of Great Britain and the United States of America Your Petitioner and the Mohawk Indians then Remaining were in the actual and peaceable possession of said Land, and had made considerble ~~considerable~~ improvements thereon, And in perticular, Your Petitioner had three Good Dwelling Houses, two Barns and an Orchard thereon, And was also possessed of a considerable personal Estate consisting of Household, furniture Farming Utensils, Cattle, Horses, Sheep, Swines, &c

That in the Month of ~~[illegible]~~ January in the Year of Our Lord One thousand seven Hundred and Eighty - Your Petitioner and one Abraham, a Mohawk chief, and Petrus and Fernando two Oneida Chiefs, were sent by General Schuyler with a Flag to Niagara, and that on ~~that~~ on thier Arrival at that place Your Petitioner and his Companions were thrown into prison

by the British Officer, then Commanding at Niag
they suffered a long and, severe confinement --

That in the Month of May in the same Yea
your Petitioner and his companions were in confinement at
ra. Sir John Johnston made a Descent on the Mohawk Riv
Destroy'd the Settlement at Coghnawaga, And took your Peti
Wife and family and several Other Families of the Mohawk
tion prisoners, and carried them to Canada.

That at the happy conclusion of the War and the
toration of Peace your Petitioner Returned with his famil
his former place of Abode at Fort Hunter, When to his Grea
and surprise he found the Corporation of Albany had take
session of All said Low or Intervale Land had leased them out,
your Petitioners Houses, Barns Orchards and all said Uplands were
Located by divers persons, whereby himself and several Other
dians of the Mohawk Nation, who Ever have been friendly to the
cause and Interest of the United States - Are forcably Ejected from
their Estates. Notwithstanding several of the Mohawk Nation conti
In the possession and improvement of Divers parts of the afore
Tract of Land During the War

That some part of your Petitioners Personal Estate w
Destroyed, or Taken away by the Enemy, And the Residue the
being much the Greatest part by the People in the Neighbourhoo
whereby your Petitioner is, together with his family Reduced to extreem
poverty Not having a House wherein to live, or an Acre of Lan
whereon to raise his Bread - Notwithstanding the Treaty by
the Commissioners from Congress on the One Part And the
Chiefs of the Six Nations On the Other Held at Saratoga Octobr some tim
in the Month of September One thousand seven hundred & eighty four -
as by said Treaty will more fully Appear Reference thereunto

ad —

Your Petitioner therefore Most Humbly Prays that he and the Rest of the friendly Indians may be Restored to the Possession of their said Lands — And that those who have taken away such of your Petitioners Personal Estate as was by the Enemy left, may be compelled, to make Restitution for the same And that your Petitioner and the Rest of the Mohawk Indians, as have been friendly may have such further Relief and Provisions made in the Premises as to Your Honours shall appear Just and Reasonable

As your Petitioners in Duty bound
shall ever pray —

New York February
6th 1786 — }

Johannes Crine

[illegible] rine &c.
Mohawk ~~[illegible]~~
Claiming Lands &c.

In Assembly 27th Feby 1786

Referred to Mr Boyd Mr Gardiner & Mr Schoonmaker.

(No. 357)

[illegible]
[illegible]
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120

372[illegible]
4
1488
3:4
1491:4

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6
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800
800
6400

16
100

160
160
16000

640
100
64000

20

Gardiner & Schoonmaker

Miami February 8th 1786

The Commiſsioners for Indian affairs in the northern and middle departments having thro' the courſe of their treaty with the Shawanoes carefully examined the cauſes which prevented the Indian Tribes from attending generally at this place, find them to proceed from its remoteneſs from many of the most important nations, and from the opportunity which thereby hath been given to the Agents and Emiſsaries of the British to exerciſe their influence over the Indians and to prevent them from attending to the invitations of the United States of whom, as a people, they are kept perfectly ignorant- Therefore

Resolved that it is the unanimous opinion of the Commiſsioners that in order to extend the influence of the United States thro' the western country- to create and establish a friendly intercourſe between the United States and numerous tribes of Indians to whom they are as yet strangers- to detach them from the interest of the British nation, whoſe Officers, Agents and Emiſsaries uſe every poſsible endeavour to keep them at variance with the United States- to open & secure a valuable trade- to extinguish such territorial claims as may be convenient to the said States, and to ſecure effectually the people of the Frontier who may become purchaſers and ſettlers of the Lands of the Union, a treaty be held at ſome place more central, and of courſe more practicable to collect the Indian tribes to, than at this post, as early in the enſuing ſummer as poſsible.

That it is the opinion of the Commiſsioners that the Miami Town on the head of the Miami or Omi river, which empties into lake Erie, Post St Vincent, or Wiachtinoe on the Wabash

(river)

tion, are the most proper places for a general Treaty with the Western Nations, and that a respectable military force will be neceſsary to protect a treaty at either of the above places, and to make an establishment in the country which may fully anſwer all the purpoſes of the United States

a copy of a Resolution entered into by George Rogers Clark, Richard Butler & Sam H Parsons eſquires Commiſsioners for Indian affairs, at the Great Miami

test A Campbell
ſecretary to the Commiſsrs

No. 18
Resolution of the
Commiss.rs for Ind.n
Affairs — 8 Feb.y 1786

Read 21 June 786

Dear Sir,

Agreeable to Commission & Instructions for Surveying Donation Lands No 9 District I proceeded on my Errand as far as Venango, but not without hearing on my Way a very great Uneasiness among the Indians at the proceedures of the State in the Purchase of those Lands, whereupon I thought it Necessary to stop there a few Days & consult some Indians Chief on the Subject before I proceeded further where after with the Advice of the Pittsburg Traders there, I sent for by a Runner Whole Face, the Corn Planter, & Long Hair three Senica Chiefs who were then out a Hunting two Days March from Venango; Whole-Face & Longhair came in, & the Corn Planter refused, — At their comming in by an Interpreter Elijah Matthews I informd them my Errand they return for Answer they could not then give me an Answer to my Proposal but would in a few Days; I waited on them 4d then they gave me a Hearing, which was as follows Verbatim — At Mr Thomas Wilkeys Store at Venango, Present Mr Thomas Wilke[illegible] Jacob Springer & Eli[illegible] the Chi[illegible] [illegible] seven others — My Friend Mr Whole Face

I was sent here by the great Counsil of the State of Pennsylvania held at Philadelphia to Measure some Lands a little to the Northward of this Place which Land I am told the great Counsil had bought of our Brothers the Indians, whose sole Property they understood it to be — But on my way

Here I was told the Indians were not well Pleased we should measure those Lands— Thought it therefore best to stop with you a few Days in Order to know wha your Uneasineſs was & if in my Power to remove any Obsticle in the Way; being fully Aſsured the great Counsil of the State would do every thing on their Side to keep alive Friendship, To maintain Peace, To Increase Friendship. To support a Union, & to make Trade Flourish betw their Brothers the Indians & themselves, as long as Time shall measure the rooling Year, & uttermostly endeavour the Happineſs of both Nations— Now my Brother and Brothers if there is any thing in the Way of all these things I have mentioned I do wish & intreat you, to inform me frankly and can it be in my Power to serve in removing any such thing as may obstruct our mutual Happin I shall always think myself Happy of having it in r. so to do; or if you think some other Person more suitable to represent this Matter should be glad it was soon done & your Objections to my Errand sent to the great Counsil at Philad.a

To which Mr Whole Face After consult wt the Others gave the following Answer,

Brother of the Big Knife

Several Surveyors have been up here to Measure Lands the Last Summer & have gone Home. We Knew not what was their meaning, as none of them told us, but went on without so much as informing their Intent. When they came to our hunting Fires, we used them well with t any Question & when they wanted any of our Aſsistance we gave it freely. Many of our Young Warriors are diſsatisfied with Conduct who are in the English Intere and also with the Reward we received for the Lands

Thinking it inadequate for so large a Body; it not
being one pair of Mokasons a piece; they therefore
would advise me not to proceed on my Busness and
to inform the thirteen Fires it was their opinion
I was not safe to proceed, though they present would pledge
their Faith for my Safety against all Indians at Venango
he Hunters
& to the Southward of that place, yet would not Answer
for it to the Northward not even one Mile. That in
the Spring as early as possible the six Nations would
hold a great Counsel at Fort Pitt where & when they
& all their Bretheren hoped to make an endless Peace with
their Brothers of the thirteen Fires & hoped till then
I would put by every Thought of proceeding on my
Errand as being very Dangerous: & then they hoped every
obstruction would be removed & we should walk
the Woods together as Brothers aught to do, in La ce,
& Ple sure. And now my Brother tell your g
Counsel of the thirteen Fires 'tis our Fault you do
not go on, and not Yours

Segonkquas his X Mark

Conhonew his XO Mark

Testes

Thos Wilkins }
Jacob Sprenger } Traders

Elijah X Matthews Interpreter

A true copy from the Original

This Dear Sir with much more was pronounced
in words and gestures of much warmth & earnest which
made me conclude to proceed no further & return — My
feet being much bit with Frost delains my not coming
at present, but will come down as soon as they are
recouverd a Little In the mean time remain yours
to serve with the ultermost Affection

James Dickinson

Pitts Burg 24th January 1786

P.S. I have not wrote you the private conversation

Letter from James
Dickinson Surveyor
of District No. 9 —
Recd. Feby. 10th. 1786

To
John Lukens Esqr.
Surveyor General
Philadelphia

Jas. Dickinson remov'd. from
office. JL

Ordered, That the resolution of that day be rescinded, and that a new commission as Lieutenant of Chester county issue to the s'd Smith.

The Council met.

PHILADELPHIA, Thursday, March 16th, 1786.

PRESENT:

The Honorable CHARLES BIDDLE, Esquire, Vice President.

Henry Hill,
Samuel Dean,
John Boyd,
Stephen Balliet,
John Neville,
Isaac Meason, and
Peter Muhlenberg, } Esquires.

William McClay's resignation of the Commission of the Peace and of the Court of Common Pleas for the county of Northumberland, as preparatory to his taking a seat in the General Assembly, was read and accepted.

Mr. Maclay presented to Council a farther report of his proceedings as Indian Commissioner, and made deposit of sundry original papers relating to the final discharge of the obligation subsisting between the Commonwealth and the Six Nations.

The following motion made by Mr. Muhlenberg, was postponed for consideration untill Saturday next:

"That the minute of yesterday for re-considering the order of Council of the sixth instant respecting Robert Smith, Esquire, rescinding the said order, and re-appointing Robert Smith Lieutenant of Chester county, be re considered and reversed, and that the commission issued to Robert Smith, under the order aforesaid, be revoked."

The Comptroller General's report upon the account of Derrick Van Vlet, for flour furnished to the militia stationed on the frontiers of Northampton county, was read and approved.

To the Honorable the Legislature of the
State of New York in Senate and Assembly
convened

The Memorial of John Harper of Harpersfield in the
County of Montgomery

eweth -

That being convinced the Legislature through misrepresentation have as yet remained uninformed of the circumstances respecting a certain Tract of Land, Conveyd by the Chiefs of the Oneida Nation to your Memorialist by Deed bearing date the 20th day of November 1784 —

Your Memorialist in Justice to his Character is induced to lay an Impartial representation of facts before your Honors. not doubting you will do him Justice in the premises . .

That your Memorialist towards the close of the late war had mad provision for the purpose of making a purchase of a Tract of Lan of the Oneida Indians - But from the Active and Decided part he took in favour of the United States, and being obliged to abandon his former Residence owing to its contiguousness to the Enemy, a large family to support And not being able to attend to his private Business - Was arrested and thrown into Albany Gaol where he suffered a long and tedious confinement, whereby your Memorialist was frustrated in his Undertaking - Notwithstanding his frequent applications to the Legislature to grant him a small part of his pay to enable him to Discharge his Debts —

That during your Memorialists confinement the Oneida Nation sent deputies to investigate the cause of his Imprisonmen and on Information being given. The Chiefs of that Nation came to the Prison to your Memorialist in Order some way

22

to extricate them therefrom – And in Order to Effect th Offerd your Memorialist a tract of their Lands, suffici thereunto, and for the purposes aforesaid

That your Memorialist being deeply affected at the gravity of their undertaking – and altho that was the then only one that offered your Memorialist, He notwithstanding his necessity considered himself not justifyable in Accepti their Offer – And accordingly declined the same –

That considering the Necessity of that part of the Coun being peopled, and the great utility it would be to the made proposals to purchase a tract of their Lands, and to him a valuable compensation therefor – To which propo they readily agreed –

That, in Consequence thereof your Memorialist Immediately sent (By Letter) Information to his Excellency Governor Clinton – Requesting that the Matter might be laid before the Legislature for their Approbation, and Ratification of said purchase, to Your Memorialist and his Associates – in Order to facilitate his f many Object towit Peopling the Country – Whether his Requi tion ever reached the Ears of the Legislature is to him unkn Certainly it has not answered the desired effect –

That the pressing necessities of those who proposed to become settlers and Inhabitants on said Lands Induced your Memorialist to take a deed of said Lands from the Native Chiefs – and paid them a valuable consideration therefor – A copy of which he lays before your Honors –

That in consequence whereof and for the purposes aforesaid Your Memorialist conveyed said Lands to divers Good Citizens who are now in actual Possession thereof And have made at Betterments and Improvements thereon. — That dispossessing them will be highly Injurious to them, and to the Community at Large —

That your Memorialists proceedings or those settled on said Lands have not been in contempt of the Authority of this State as has been represented — But so far ~~to far~~ to the contrary that he dare appeal to your Honors, relying that you are concienciously convinced to the Contrary —

That notwithstanding they have already paid large sums for said Lands, Are still ready and willing to pay the State one Shilling pr. Acre in Public securities agreable to Law, and conform thereunto in every respect —

Your Memorialist from the Rectitude of his Conduct is encouraged to look up to your Honors

Most Humbly praying that you will be pleased to take the premises into your Wise consideration, and grant that said Lands be confirmed to the present possessors — they performing on their part agreable to said Law

As he in duty bound will ever pray

New York March 23d
1786

John Harper

A Petition of [illegible] Harper

In Assembly March 27th 1786
Read & referred to Mr. Jones
Mr. Malcom and Mr. Gardiner

In Senate April 6th 1786.

(No. 551)

1788

A Meeting held at Fort Schlosser on the 27th March 1788 by the principal Sachems and a large body of Warriors of the Six united Nations of Indians —

Present

John Dease Esqr. Dy Superintendant

Lts. { Jones .. Comandt / Roach ... } 34th Regt.

Mr. Nicholas Stevens Intr.

Mr. John Stevens actg Secy.

The Fish Carrier a principal Cayuga Chief Speaker

Brother. (Addressd to Mr Dease)

We thank the Great Spirrit for the pleasure of seeing you here to day in good health, and you have our particular acknowledgements for your chearfull compliance with the request of the principal Chiefs & Warriors of the Six Nations assembled at this Council fire; in order to communicate to you minutely their proceedings at the great Council of the Six Nations lately held at Buffalo Creek on matters highly interesting to themselves and their Confederacy. and also to impart to you their resolutions then fixed on, in Consequence of their deliberations —

Brother In pursuance of the desire of our Superintendant General Sir John Johnson communicated to us, by your self, and the Chiefs lately returned from Canada, we called together a general meeting of the Sachems & Chief warriors of the Six Nations at Buffalo Creek, to whom we published his Speech with great Exactness, & we are happy to inform you that on mature Consideration it gives general Satisfaction, and you may assure him that we shall strictly adhere to the advice he has given us, for which with one voice we return him many thanks. — We impatiently expected his return & are now amply recompensed for our anxiety for his long absence, by the satisfactory news he brings from the Great King, for which and his own good advice, we repeat our thanks to our Superintend^{t} General —

Brother We have calmly considered our present Situation, & in particular the State of our Affairs with the Americans, with whom we wish to live in peace & to bury in forgetfullness past animosities and grievances, for which we are all agreed on the following resolutions — We intend immediately to Dispatch messengers to acquaint them with our determinations, & to desire that some of their Confidential people may meet ours, on the frontiers at a place appointed (perhaps Tioga), when we intend to demand from them with the voice of the Six Nations the Deeds given to them at the Treaty of Fort Stanwix for Lands given away by some of our people who had no authority to grant or dispose of them, or to settle any other matter finally with them — for which reason together with their acting in open violation of all faith and customs of nations, by detaining our people hostages in time of peace; we look upon that treaty to be entirely void. — We will therefore offer them the papers in our Hands relative thereto and see both destroyed, that no future disputes may arise from them this we are determined to put into execution — We intend to ma them a generous offer of such a tract of land as we can best spare & tho' it may not be large, it shall be more than sufficiently so to indemnify them for such presents as some of our foolish people may have received, and any other Expences thereby incurred; by which they and the World may be convinced of the Sincerity of our Wishes to live in peace with them, but which should they refuse and have recourse to unfriendly or violent measures, which necessity and a sense of our own rights may oblige us to oppose, w then (the above proceedings Considered) hope to stand justifi in the opinion of the world — We are in hopes however from the rectitude of our proposal that the Americans will agree to it, & settle matters satisfactorily; but if they should not be the case, we must then insist that the 13 United States shall call their people from our Lands & immediately remove them from the encroachments they are daily making on our possessions — X

Brother. We have faithfully informed you of the Sentiments of the Six Nations respecting their transactions with the Americans you are made acquainted with their firm determination in consequence of their most attentive deliberations on a subject of the greatest importance to them — their resolutions they are determined to carry into effect let the consequence be the worst; their rights & Lands they hold themselves obliged by every tie to support and defend, and would esteem themselves truly contemptible should they lamely resign them —

We

Brother, We think it highly requisite to send messengers to our brethren towards the setting of the Sun, they have long expected to hear from us, we shall inform them of the particulars of our late meetings, and our resolutions in Consequence; we shall earnestly recommend to them to be strongly united and by no means divide or break from the Chain of friendship by which we are so firmly bound, our interests being the same will certainly be best promoted by our strict union & firmness, & be the surest means to obtain for us from the Americans a just & permanent peace — We send this belt to invite a few of our brethren the principal chiefs of the Huron, Shawanese, & Delaware Nations, to attend a meeting which we propose to hold at Buffaloe Creek in about Sixty days time, then we shall inform them of every interesting circumstance, that ~~may~~ have or shall happen untill their arrival — We entreat those three Nations to take hold of our Belt thro which a clear road runs in the middle, which will lead them to our fire place; & hope nothing may prevent their attendance at the proper time & place —

Brother We request that you will in your manner inform the Superintendant of Indn. Affairs at Detroit of what we have now made known to you; that he may strengthen the words of our runners & Communicate them to our distant brethren —

Brother. We also Desire that you will transmit to our Superint General our proceedings in Council, with the thanks of of the Six Nations for his Brotherly Speech and friendly advice, and assure him that it has met with our entire approbation, & that we shall always hold it in gratefull remembrance —

Brother. We have now honestly informed you of every particular that happened in our Council since you last attended there, and have nothing more to add, than that you who have long successfully managed our Affairs at this Post, & whose attention to our interests the Six Nations have so often experienced & profitted by, will in your usual friendly manner continue your advice, point out and correct our errors, to your knowledge & judgement we submit our proceedings to be altered or arranged in the manner you think most proper, assuring you that neither time nor the different revolutions which it constantly produces, will ever alter our attachment to the Great King & his Interest, or forget our former engagements.

Mr. Dease's Answer

Brothers.

I yesterday received your message requesting my attendance at this council fire, where I'm glad to see so many of my friends assembled, my inclination as well as my duty engages my chearfull attending your Councils, especially when matters of importance are the objects of your deliberations — You have my thanks for the Confidence you always reposed in me, by taking the earliest opportunity of communicating the particulars of your proceedings, you may rest assured they shall always have a due share of my attention —

Brothers.

I will with much pleasure by the first occasion inform Sir John Johnson our Superintt. Genl. of the reception his Speech to you has met with, and am Confident he will be much pleased with the respectfull attention shewn him by calling together so respectable a meeting in order to make it known to the Six Nations. — As he has your interest constantly at heart and wishes much to promote it, he will be glad to hear of yr resolution to follow his advice, as it was calculated for your good. Your friendly anxiety on account of his absence, & the pleasure you expressed at his return cant fail of being acceptable to him & engaging his acknowledgement —

Brothers. I'm Glad to find that your proceedings at Buffaloe Creek were conducted with so much coolness and good sense; the object of your deliberations was certainly highly interesting to you & justly claimed your whole attention. As the meeting with the American Commissioners at Fort Stanwix was entirely managed by yourselves, you are best acquainted with the Extent of powers delegated to your Deputies sent there; if they have acted inconsistently with the trust reposed in them, they are certainly to be blamed — nor do I think the Americans paid you a great compliment in detaining your principal Sachems & Warriors hostages, I think they might trust to their promise for the delivery of prisoners. — As to appointing a meeting with the Americans at present or sending messengers to acquaint them with your determination I think a little reflection will incline you to defer it, for the following reasons – the winter has for some months past suspended our communication with the rest of the world; many things may have happened which might be very interesting to you to know, in order to regulate your future Conduct. you are unacquainted with the situation of the American States. – A new Commander in Chief is expected in Canada early in the Spring, with whom your friend Captain Brant will probably come out, he will undoubtedly bring you news from our Father the Great King, our Communication will soon be open and you will have accounts from our Superintendant General and from the quarters which may throw a new light on Affairs, and enable you to carry on your proceedings to greater advantage.

I much approve of your intention to offer the Americans a tract of Land more valuable than the presents received by some of your foolish people – I hope all your proceedings with the States will be managed with the strictest regard to justice, & in such a manner as may reflect credit on yourselves in the eyes of the world, by a well timed application to Congress I make no doubt that they will appoint as Commissioners to meet you men of such wisdom & integrity as will settle matters to your mutual satisfaction & prevent every disagreeable consequence ——

Brothers

I thank you for the Candid manner in which you have imparted to me your proceedings & resolutions.

I will transmit by your Messengers, to the Superintendant of Indian Affairs at Detroit the particulars of your Different meetings, which he will make known to the

Western Nations - by holding fast and brightning the Chain of friendship which unites you will make you respectable to the world & formidable to your Enemies -

Brothers. The first Vessel that will sail from Niagara shall carry down the particulars of your Councils to our Superintendant General with which & your repeated expressions of acknowledgement to him I am sure he will be much pleased ——

Brothers. Your warm assurances of attachment to the King and his interests, the very friendly manner in which you express your sense of my past Services & the liberal confidence you have constantly reposed in me, merit my sincerest thanks, be assured you shall always find me faithfully attached & ever ready to promote the welfare of the Six Nations, as far as my little means will permit -

In the Evening Eight of the principal Chiefs requested to meet Mr Dease & being assembled, Sayengaraghton the principal Seneca Chief spoke as follows —

Present as before

Brother.

We the Sachems now met requested your attendance here at this time as we have a few words to speak to you in private; We are excessively happy that our business has been conducted thus far to your satisfaction, it has been a long & tedious work to us. and we now acknowledge to you the great assistance we received from the advice given us in Sir John Johnsons Speech, we hope our proceedings may prove satisfactory to him, we the Chiefs here present thank him much for it. —

Brother We have also to make our acknowledgments to you for your friendly Counsel this day, convinced of its propriety we have upon Consideration concluded to follow it — be assured it highly meets our approbation, we are much obliged to you for so candidly pointing out to us what we are most certain must be for our good —

Brother. We again repeat to you that the attachment of the Six Nations to the King & his Government remains invariable & hope no doubt may be entertained of the truth of what we now advance, & we will venture to say should occasion require it we are ready to give the strongest

proofs

roots of it; we are too closely bound together to break the Links of the Chain which has for so long a time remaind unshaken, and our mutual interests are so nearly united to divide from each other — these are not only the Sentiments of the Chiefs present, but of the whole of the Six Nations

Mr. Dease's answer

Brothers. You always find me disposed to comply with your request & notwithstanding my business required my return to Niagara this Evening, I willingly staid to hear what you had to say. A business of so much importance as that which you have under Consideration, required mature reflection & your resolutions in consequence must be highly interesting not alone to yourselves but even to remote posterity. I am glad to find that you approve your past proceedings. I think they have been conducted with wisdom I hope Sir J. Johnson will be of the same opinion. I shall transmit to him your thanks for his Speech and advice —

Brothers You wished for my opinion & advice respecting your Councils. I have honestly given it to you, & am satisfied that you so much approve of both. I shall continue (whenever you desire it) to give you freely my Sentiments in all matters where your interests may be concerned —

Brothers

Your Repeated assurances of unalterable attachment to our Great King & his Government are truly acceptable to me, & I shall not fail to communicate them to our Superind General — I'm perfectly Convinced that you will always find it to be your interest to hold fast & Continually brighten the Chain of friendship which has so long united us —

A Meeting held at Fort Schlosser the 27.th of March 1786 by the principal Sachems and Warriors of the Six United Nations of Indians. —

Expenditures for Indian Affairs

from 1st April to 30th June 1786

May	4th	Clarke, Butler & Parsons, Commiſsioners for holding Treaties with the Indians For to enable them to purchase presents for Capt. O'Bail an Indian Chief & his party; agreeably to Act of Congreſs of 28th April last	200 "
	27th	Ditto Do. Do.	203.77
June	1st	Henry Knox, to enable him to forward Capt. O'Bail and his Aſsociates to their Country by the rout of the North & Mowhawk Rivers, agreeably to Act of Congreſs of 30th Ult.	100 "
	5th	Joseph Nicholson, Indian Interpreter, for his pay from 20th March to 16th June 1786	237.30
	"	John & Thomas, two Caghnawaga Indians, granted them by Act of Congreſs of this date	16 "
		Dollars	757.17

Joseph Nourse Register

No. 6.

Expenditures for Indian Affairs

from 1st April to 30th June 1786

To the honorable the Congreſs of the United States of America &c.ª &c.ª &c.ª

The Petition of Andrew McFarlane of the Township of Schenectady Merchant

Humbly Sheweth

That in the year One thousand Seven hundred and Eighty the honorable Major General Philip Schuyler and Volkert P. Dow Esquire Commiſsioners of Indian affairs in the Northern district of the United States of America held a Treaty with the Oneida Indians at Schenectady where the residence of the said Indians was fixed, That Colonel Udny Hay then agent of the State of New York contracted with Jellis Fonda Esquire to supply the said Indians with Provisions and Neceſsaries which from the extreme Scarcity of Provisions was found so difficult that Mr. Fonda was obliged to apply to your Petitioner to join with him in said Contract which your Petitioner consented to from a wish to promote and support the cause of Liberty and render every Service in his power to the Interest of the United States.

That from these Considerations your Petitioner advanced upon the faith and Credit of Congreſs large Sums of Money which he could then have employed much more advantageously to his own Interest that there still remains due to him from the United States a Ballance of two thousand four hundred and Seventy six dollars of the Money so advanced as will appear by the Certificates of Joseph Nourse and Udny Hay herewith presented to your honors, That your Petitioner who has a large Family of young Children to Support feels the want of said Money very Sensibly.—

And therefore humbly prays that your honors would be favorably pleased to order the said ballance to be paid to him.—

And he as in duty bound will ever pray &ca.

N.Y. 14th April 1786.—

Andw. McFarlan

[illegible]

Ellison
& Thos & Wm Farlan

Read 20 April 1786

referred to the board
of treasury to report

Reported April 25th 1786

The certificate inclosed
delivered to Mr [illegible]
for [illegible] —

New York April 25th 1786

Sir

After the Commissioners for Indian affairs had left Fort Pitt in March last the Corn-planter or Capt. O'Bail a chief of the Seneca tribe of the Six nations with five others arrived at that place. He expressed to Major Wyllis the commanding Officer, a desire of seeing the Commissioners, alledging that he had some things of importance to the United States to lay before them — and that he also wished to pay a visit to the great council or thirteen fires of the United States. His speech No. 1. at that place, and the subsequent, I have the honor of enclosing to your Excellency

Major Wylles judging it proper that he should see the Commissioners put the chief & his companions under the care of Major Montgomery to bring them to Carlisle, which he did with great care and safety. The chief there addressed me with

(His)

the ſpeech No. 2. to which I gave the anſwer ſubjoined to it, which brought forward the Speech No. 3 with the anſwer to it.

The weather being ſevere — the roads bad — and the Indians much fatigued, I thought it best to let them remain a few days, and ſee the place. The principal inhabitants of the town and country, ſhewed them many marks of attention, which gave them great ſatiſfaction. I then had them ſent under the ſame gentleman's care, at the chief's requeſt, to Philadelphia, where I overtook them. The beauty of the country they had paſsed thro' — the magnitude of the city — the numbers of the people, ſhipping & curioſities to them quite new induced the chief to requeſt their being indulged with a few days ſtay, with which I complied, judging it proper that they ſhould have juſt impreſsions of the ſtrength, opulence and conſequence of so much of the United States as they might have an opportunity of seeing – with which they seem highly pleased, and agreeably surprized, and delighted, having been treated the whole way & particularly at Philadelphia with great attention by all ranks of the Citizens

On friday last I set out with them for this place – but the unfortunate accident of the stage over setting, and injuring both myself and the chief, has prevented my giving your Excellency earlier information that they arrived in this city on Sunday last. I have put them into good lodgings and the chief under the hand of a surgeon, & I expect that in two or three days, his wound will be so well as to enable him to pay his respects to your Excelly & Congreſs, an honor of which he is very desirous, at such time as your Excelly may think proper to direct.

I beg leave to suggest to your Excelly that in my opinion the affairs of the western territory will be great benefited by the early attention of Congreſs, they being in a very looſe and distracted State. Shou any information of mine on any matter which has come under my notice, or within the line of my Duty as a Commiſsioner of Indian affrs be thought useful; it will give me great pleasure to render all the satisfaction in my ~~[illegible]~~ power in any manner which your Excellency may be pleased to point out.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Excellency's most obe
and hble Servt

Richd Butler

His Excellency
The President of Congreſs.

On the 17th of March Capt. O'Bail (alias) the Corn-planter arrived at Fort Pitt, and said that he was desirous of seeing the Commissioners — The Commissioners being absent Major Wyllis the commanding officer at Fort McIntosh received his Speech which was as follows —

Speech No. 1. Brother — It is with happiness I meet you here — I formerly was afraid to come to this place — but I am now glad to find that I can visit it with safety.

Brother. Something weighty oppresses me. — I wish to see the great People that I may inform them what it is — for this purpose I wish to go on to the Great Council, and request that you will give me a pass-port.

Brother. I have taken a long & tedious journey upon myself, to render a service to my people — You will conceive that it is not thro' lucrative views I have come — 'Tis thro' a regard for my women and children, on whom all the calamities of a future rupture between us would inevitably fall — Great disturbances seem to threaten our Island — it must be our endeavour to guard against them — I once more inform you that I am happy in taking you by the hand, and you may rest assured that if a war should ever again take place in this Country, I will join the American arms — But I am apprehensive that we shall not have a firm peace till I can see the Commissioners themselves — (a String.)

O'Bail afterwards proceeded to Carlisle where General Butler was — The morning after his arrival in a conference with General Butler several Gentlemen of the place being present, he expressed himself thus.

(Speech No. 2). Brother. With pleasure I find that I have arrived in safety in your own county and where you have your habitation — The great Spirit hath conducted me — To him I give thanks for his care over me and his kindneſs in bringing us together.

—Brother Something of a very weighty & ſerious nature oppreſses my heart — The tears flow from my eyes — and I feel a disturbance within me when I think of it. Inquietudes ſeem to threaten our Iſland. Let us unite our endeavours and invoke the aſsiſtance of the Great Spirit to ſave it from harm for should any thing happen to us, our women & children must ſuffer. My desire is to go on to the great Council who watch the 13 fires & keep them bright, — I hope, Brother, that you will aſsiſt me on.

The commanding Officer promiſed to ſend you the ſpeech which I made to him at Pittsburgh. By that you will be informed what my views are in this journey

(a String)

To the above ſpeech General Butler replied.

Brother I am glad to ſee you ſafely arrived at th
place, but am ſorry that any thing shou'd oppr
your mind, ſo as to give you uneaſineſs — ſince you
unhappineſs must make me unhappy a

As Congreſs have committed the charge of In-
dian affairs wholly to their Commiſsioners, I
deſire that you will communicate to me, the ca
of your trouble, so that it may be regularly
communicated to the Great-Council — I think
your deſire of going to Congreſs, a laudable one,
and ſhall take meaſures for rendering your
journey thither, agreeable and convenient.

O'Bail to this replied

That the next morning he would inform
Genl Butler of the cauſe of his diſtreſs ——
accordingly at 12 O'Clock the next day, the
31st of March O'Bail met General Butle
in the court house, where the principal
characters of the place being present, he
spoke as it follows — (Brother)

Speech N°.3.

Brother The representative of the 13 fires, and all present — I desire you to listen!

Yesterday you heard my words. I told you my mind upon some subjects, but I promised to unbosom myself fully to you to-day. This Island was once *mine*. The ground upon which we now stand, formerly belonged to my people. Hearken to my words Brother — For I am now about to divulge to you the cause of my distress — the cause of the uneasiness which I told you hung heavy upon my mind.

Brother. I have heard from the British that you have concluded a Treaty with the nations westward. altho' I was so informed, yet my mind cou'd not be quieted. I therefore came, among other things, to satisfy myself of what hath been done, between you and those nations. — Brother listen! — altho' I joined the arms of the Great King & assisted him in his war against you, I have now relinquished all connections with him— and am not afraid of what he can do to me:—

(a string)

Brother. If you remember—in the old Councils the Great King told us that the French had relinquished to him all their claims to this country. Perhaps the writings by which they did that ſtill remain in your poſseſsion. Thoſe papers I am desirous of ſeeing.

(a string)

Brother. My people were the old Inhabitants of this Island. It becomes us both to join our endeavours to prevent injuries from befalling it;— to ward off the disturbances which promiſe, before it be long, to diſtreſs us—our women—and our little ones. As for me—my life is short—'Tis already told to the Great King. Let us live in friendſhip that we may be unanimous—let us unite our ſtrength that we may be ſtrong, ſo that we may prevent all people from doing us an injury

(a String)

Brother, once more hearken to me! — I fear I tire your patience; — but as the business upon which we have come is good — listen to me patiently while I declare to you all my sentiments

I wish to see what hath been done with the other nations to the West that every thing may be clear to us. The great Spirit above directs us — so that whatsoever hath been said or done, must be good & right. Let us Brother implore the assistance of that Spirit — let us be tied together in friendship — encircle us within yourselves that none may dare to provoke us, or to offer insult or injury to either party.

(a belt)

Agreeably to O'Bails desire the definitive treaty of peace with Great Britain — that article of the Treaty of alliance with France, which contains a renunciation

of claim to the country within the limits of the Unite
States as described in the Definitive treaty aforesd.
The Treaty at Fort McIntosh with the Wiandots,
Delawares, Ottawas & Chippewas, and that
at the Miami with the Shawanoe nat
were produced — after which Genl. Butler addressed O'Bail in answer to his speech in the
following manner.

Brother. What you mention of this country
having belonged to your People, it is unnecessary for us to go into an explanation of, at
present. These matters were settled by, and between our fore-fathers before we were bor
— but with respect to the means by which the
U. S. are become the Sovereigns & owners of
this country, I will now inform you.

Twenty and more years ago,
the King of England & the King of France wen
to war about the right to this Territory — an
after they had fought a long time a treaty o
peace was concluded between those two
(Powers

Powers, by which the King of France ceded to the King of England his right to this country. Twelve years ago when the King of England made war on the 13 States, the King of France, willing to shew his friendship to the United States joined their arms agst him - took them by the hand as Brothers & relinquished to them all the claim he ever had to this country. The U.S. having conquered the British King, he ceded to them all the territory described in the definitive Treaty of peace concluded between Great Britain & the United States, wch we read to you at Fort Stanwix - which I now hold in my hand and will again explain to you here if you desire it.

When we thus by the prowess of our arms became possessed of all those lands, no people within our boundaries had any claim - Yet the U.S.

commiſerated the ſituation of the Indians
and inſtead of driving them beyond the great
lakes from their old places of habitation — they
offered them peace — friendship — and protection
Lands for themselves & their families to live
and to hunt on. In return for this cle-
mency they only require on the part of
the Indians a strict adherence to their
engagements. They have ſettled boundary
lines between the United States, and the
Wiandots Delawares Ottawas & Chippi
was by a treaty at Fort McIntosh, and
the Shawanoe nation by a treaty at the
Miami which we have lately concluded
They have proffered the ſame kindneſs to
all the other nations, whoſe acceptance
we doubt not will take place ſo soon as
they shall be able to diſpel the clouds of
deluſion which hang over them — and
to see their true interest. I promiſe
you that while there is honor or faith

in the United, the engagements which have or hereafter may be entered into with the Indian nations ſhall be moſt ſtrictly complied with. In Teſtimony of what I have mentioned to you, I here produce to you the papers which record the transactions which have taken place between the United States & yours & other nations

(Here the different Treaties were ſhewn)

It ſhall be our conſtant endeavour to preſerve a friendly intercourſe between your nations & the 13 fires, ſo long as they ſhall preſerve their faith with us. I approve of your going to Congreſs, as I think the meaſure argues the goodneſs of your intentions & ſhews us that you are ſincere." O'Bail again replied

Brother. I yesterday told you of the trouble which oppreſsed me. I feel myſelf as just awakened from a dream — for I begin now to conſider the future lot of my little one and to reflect with anger on the deception practiced on us by the Great King over the water. I aſsisted him — I fought his battle while he sat quietly in his Forts — nor did I ever ſuſpect that so great a perſo and one too, who wore a red coat, ſufficient of itself to tempt one, could be guilty of such flagrant injustice — o such glaring falſhood. My reaſon for telling you that this Iſland would ſoon be disturbed is, that I am determined to ave the injuries wh I and my people have ſu tained from that King. He hath alrea begun to ſettle his people upon the lands oppoſite to Niagara — His buildings, no ſettlements shall remain. I will go pea ceably to him, and will deſire him to mo off. This request I will repeat calmly to him three times. If he will not then decamp I am resolved to strike him & hence will flow those inquietudes which I mentioned

(a String)

Brother when we shall have settled all matters fully, my Desire is that Congress appoint seven of you, whom I will take by the hand and lead to our Council-fire at the Jenissee. There they will discover the truth of what I say to you, and that I am sent with authority by my People (a string)

Brother I now take this string to strengthen your hearts. I repeat my desire that we should join our force together, by which means we shall be able to accomplish all our ends, and to drive the great King quite away. I request you to make all those things (known).

known to the great Council; where I wiſh to ſee you as ſoon as poſsible ſince we cannot do our buſineſs unleſs you be present. (a String)

To which Genl Butler replied That he would not anſwer to Capt. O Bail's last requiſitions— That the buſineſs of the Commiſsioners was to make peace &ca with the Indians, that the right of making war remained in Congreſs alone. That he would carefully tranſmit to Congreſs all which he had said upon the subject.

The aforegoing are the proceedings with respect to Capt. O Bail

A Campbell Secy
to the Commiſsioners
Ind Aff.

speeches & a map orders
to Maj.r Wyllys at Fort Finney –
to Gen.l Butler at Carlisle –
Letter – April 25th 1786
Gen.l Butler –
Read April 26th 1786 –
referred – Mr Mitchell
Mr Kean
Mr Monroe

May 2d 1786.
referred – Mr Kean
Mr King
Mr Pettit –

By The United States in Congreſs Aſsembled
April 28th 1786

On the Report of a Committee to whom was referred a letter from General Butler dated the 25th of April 1786 announcing the arrival in this City of the Cornplanter (alias Capt O'Beal) a chief of the Seneca Tribe of the ſix nations, with five others of the ſame Nation

Resolved That Congreſs will on Tuesday next receive a Viſit from Capt. O'Beal and his Aſsociates to be attended by the Commiſsioners for western affairs, and the Geographer of the United States.

Resolved That ſuitable presents to an amount not exceeding four hundred Dollars be purchaſed and diſposed of among them, by the Commiſsioners appointed to hold Treaties with the Indians.

a true copy — R Alden Dſſ —

Resolution —
Congreſs April 20. 1776

Brothers —

You that belong to the 13 fires, I hope you will be pleased to hear me a few words — I have taken great pains to have this visit, and have long had a great inclination to see the 13 fires — I wanted to see the brands burning — You do not know what pleasure it gives me to see you all sitting around (together consulting for our good. I have brought my son with me (meaning his Interpreter) to hear from you, and to tell all I have to communicate — I am very happy to have the pleasure to see you this day —

a String —

Brothers —

I hope you will listen a little farther to me — I am a native of this country. I want to have all of one mind. I am never tired of doing good. I want to have every thing done right — and I hope the 13 fires will listen well to what they have heard from me — You must consider the good of the Indians — the Inhabitants of the great Island ought to be one, if our sentiments are together nothing can go against us — I hope you will consider this one thing, and take care of my people. It is a great while since we have had any body to take care of us — You have chosen a very good man to talk with us (meaning Genl. Butler) but he has no particular place where to reside among us — if you will give him a fixed place, I will do every thing in my power to make every thing right. I hope you will think of this, and if you do the great God above will direct us both — There is another man, (meaning Genl. Norris) whom I wish to have appointed to go among us — I hope you will consider well what I have said — and I am satisfied that every thing will be right —

a String —

Brothers — of the 13 fires, I hope You have heard all the Speeches which I have made, and as they contain ~~all~~ what I have to communicate, I shall say no more at this time —

Brother

[illegible] You that belong to the 13 fires he hopes You will be pleased to hear him a few words — [illegible]

[illegible] he says he had a great inclination to see the 13 great fires — he always wanted to see the great Warriors — you do not know what pleasure it gives him to see you all sitting around together consulting what is good — You do not [illegible]

he has brought here with him, that is [illegible]

[illegible]

he is very happy to have the pleasure to see You this day — to a [illegible]

Brother

I hope You will listen a little further to him — he is a native of this country — he wants [illegible]

he is never tired of doing good — he wants every thing to be done right — he hopes the 13 fires listen well — to what they have heard of him — You must consider the Indians are now — the Inhabitants of the Island right to be one — if our sentiments are together nothing can go against us — he hopes You will consider one thing and take care of his people — is it a great while since they have had any body to take care of them — that he understands

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that Genl Butler is the Man You have chosen —
but he has no particular place to reside
if You give him a fixed place — if You will do
that, I will do every thing to make all things right
he hopes You will think of this — and if You
do the great God above will succeed us both —
there is a gentlm in this town. he has heard a great
deal of good man in this town —
he hopes You will consider well of what has said
and he is satisfied that every thing will be right

a String —

Brothers

of the 13 fires — he hopes You have heard
of all the Speeches

Speech delivered by
ABeel. alias Cornplanter

THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 1786.

Congress assembled. Present, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia and South Carolina; and from New Hampshire, Mr. [Pierse] Long, and from New York, Mr. [Melancton] Smith.

OFFICE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
27th April, 1786.

SIR: I have the Honor to transmit to your Excellency herewith enclosed, a Translation of the french Decree, giving a Bounty on the Exportation of Codfish, together with the Original—and am with great Respect, etc.

JOHN JAY.[1]

His Excellency,
The President of Congress.

FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 1786.

Congress assembled. Present, as before.

The Comtee [consisting of Mr. Stephen Mix Mitchell, Mr. John Kean and Mr. James Monroe] to whom was referred a Letter from General Butler . . . . .

Report That good Policy requires proper attention should be paid to Capt. O'Beel and his Associates.

That they should be admitted to Audience on

That the honble Chairman of Congress in the Name and behalf of Congress, Assure them of the Friendly Disposition Congress entertain for their Nation and Intention strickly to adhere to the Articles of the Treaty entered into with them by the Commissioners, and Determination to prevent every Encroachment on their Lands and Territories.

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[1] This letter is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 80, II, folio 275. According to indorsement it was read April 27. Two arrêts, dated September 18 and 25 respectively, in printed form, are on folios 279 and 291; the translations are on folios 295 and 305.

APRIL 27: According to indorsement, the committee of April 25 on the report of the Commissioner for Army Accounts on the petition of Andrew Pepin, was this day discharged. See *ante*, April 5.

Also a petition from Increase Carpenter, dated April 27, was read, praying that the prayer of his late memorial be granted. It is in No. 42, II, folio 206.

That suitable presents to an amount not exceeding Dollars be purchased and disposed of among them, by the Commissioners appointed to hold Treaties with the Indians.[1]

On the report of a committee to whom was referred a letter from General Butler, dated 25th of April, 1786, announcing the arrival, in this city, of the Cornplanter, alias captain O'Beal, a chief of the Seneca Tribe of the Six Nations, with five others of the same nation.

Resolved, That Congress will on Tuesday next receive a visit from Captain O'Beal and his associates, to be attended by the Commissioners for western Affairs, and the Geographer of the United States.

Resolved, That suitable presents, to an amount not exceeding four hundred dollars, be purchased and disposed of among them, by the Commissioners appointed to hold treaties with the Indians.

[Motion of Mr. [John] Kean]

That the Board of Treasury ascertain the number and value of the Medals received by the Commissioners appointed to treat with the Indians, from the said Indians, and to have an equal number, with the Arms of the United States made of silver and returned to the Chiefs from whom these were received.

April 28, 1786: Ordered That the above Motion be referred to the Board of Treasury to take Order.[2]

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[1] This report, in the writing of Stephen Mix Mitchell, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 30, folio 375. According to indorsement it was read and passed April 28, 1786. Nathaniel Gorham has crossed out portions of the report, and filled in and added the resolve as above, bringing the altered report into verbatim conformity to the Journal text above. A letter of Richard Butler, dated April 28, regarding the medals and presents, is on folio 361; a list of the presents on folio 365 and O'Beal's or Cornplanter's speech in Congress, on 371.

[2] This motion is entered by Roger Alden in Committee Book No. 190 and by Benjamin Bankson in Resolve Book No. 123.

BOARD OF TREASURY,
April 27th, 1786.

SIR: We do ourselves the Honor of laying before Congress, Copies of Sundry Letters which have past betwixt this Board and Abraham Yates Junr Esqr in Consequence of the Resolve of Congress of the 14th March last, relative to the Oath of Office, to be taken by persons Employed in the Service of the United States.

As Mr Yates declines qualifying agreeably to the Resolve of Congress above mentioned, it becomes our Duty to inform that Honorable Body, that we cannot Consider him as Commissioner of the Loan Office of the State of New York, without their express Direction. We judge it unnecessary to enter into any Discussion of Mr Yates' Objections, and shall only beg leave to Refer to our former Correspondence on this subject of the 13th March last, in which were enclosed the Instructions of this Board to the Commissioners of the Respective Loan Offices, for their Governnment on the Issue, and Receipt of Indents of Interest on the Requisition of the 27th September last.

We have the honor, etc.[1]

His Excellency, the
President of Congress.

[Motion—Mr. Dane]

Whereas Ab. Yates Jur. heretofore appointed Comr of the Continental loan office for the State of New York hath refused to take the oath of office in that behalf prescribed by the United States in Congress assembled,

Resolved, that Congress consider the said office as vacant and that ~~Tuesday~~ Wednesday next be assigned for the election of a Commissioner to that office.[2]

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[1] This letter, signed by Samuel Osgood and Walter Livingston, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 140, II, folio 215. According to indorsement it was read April 28 and acted on May 1. Copies of the correspondence with Yates are on folios 201–211.

[2] This motion, in the writing of Nathan Dane, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 29, folio 219. According to indorsement "Monday 30th April, 1786" was assigned for consideration. April 30, 1786, fell upon Sunday. Dane's motion seems to have been offered April 28 and either withdrawn or postponed until May 1.

Office for Foreign Affairs,
27 April, 1786.

Sir: I have the Honor of transmitting to your Excellency herewith enclosed, certain Proposals of Adrian De Nys of Utrecht, which were delivered to me by Col! Senf who is now in this City and will wait for the Determination of Congress on them.

The Original being in Dutch, a Translation is also enclosed.

Col! Senf requests me to give him a Copy of these Papers, but I do not consider myself at Liberty to do it without the Direction of Congress.

With great Respect, etc.

John Jay.[1]

His Excellency, The Presid! of Congress.

Office for Foreign Affairs,
27th April, 1786.

Sir: I have the Honor of transmitting to your Excellency herewith enclosed, a Letter of 14th February from John Ross Esqr together with the Papers mentioned in it; which being voluminous and abounding in Words and Phrases peculiar to judicial Proceedings, the Interpreter did not translate from French to English with his usual Expedition. He returned his Translation Yesterday, without having rendered it entirely perfect, tho' sufficiently so for the Purpose for which those Papers are communicated.

I have the Honor to be, etc.

John Jay.[2]

His Excellency,
The President of Congress.

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[1] This letter is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 80, II, folio 247. According to indorsement it was read this day and referred to the Secretary at War to report and report rendered May 4. Col. Christian Senf's letter is on folio 251. The original proposals are on folios 255 and 267, the translations on folios 263 and 271 and offer the raising of a regiment of regular troops in Europe for the service of the United States, which Senf's letter explains are to be used in establishing a military academy in the United States.

[2] This letter is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 80, II, folio 243. According to indorsement it was read April 28. Committee Book No. 190 shows that it was referred back to the Secretary for Foreign Affairs for report, which was rendered May 1. Ross' complaint was "of his property being seized and condemned by the late Govr and Council of Port au Prince." Hayti; his letter of February 14 with accompanying papers, is in No. 45, folios 1–91.

OFFICE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
28th April, 1786.

The Secretary of the United States for the Department of foreign Affairs to whom was referred "so much of the Note of Mr Otto of 18th April Instant as respects the Ratification of consular Convention," Reports:

That the said Convention is dated 29th July, 1784, and that a Copy of it enclosed in a letter of 8th February, 1785, from Doctr Franklin to his Excellency the President was laid before Congress on the 6th Day of June, 1785.

That the said Copy was referred for *Translation* on the said 6th Day of June, 1785, to your Secretary, and that on the 23d Day of the same Month he transmitted a Translation of it to Congress.

That on the 25th June, 1785, the same was referred to your Secretary to *report*, and that on the 4th July, 1785, he returned it with his Report to Congress.

That from the above Facts it appears that Congress had not an Opportunity of taking the said Convention into Consideration before the said 4th July, 1785.

That as on the 4th November then next a new Election of Delegates to Congress was to take Place, and some Time would probably elapse before a competent Number of the new Members would appear and take their Seats, it became adviseable to Confine the Attention of Congress to such of the national Objects then under Deliberation, as were more immediately interesting, and required to be dispatched before the approaching Sessions of the State Legislatures; such among other Things as the Requisitions to be made for Supplies, Treaties with the late hostile Indian Nations, and other matters of general and pressing Concern.

That since the 4th November last there have been but three Days Vizt: the 24th, 27th, and 28th of last Month on which nine States appeared and were present in Congress, whence it is evident that Congress have not since last Autumn been in Capacity agreeable to the Confederation to decide on the said Convention.

Your Secretary thinks it would be proper to transmit a Copy of so much of Mr Otto's Note as respects this Subject to Mr Jefferson, together with a Copy of the aforegoing State of Facts and that he be instructed to account and apologize for the Delays which have attended this Business, to his most Christian Majesty; and to assure him that Congress will take the earliest Opportunity of considering and terminating it.

All which is submitted to the Wisdom of Congress.[1]

[APRIL 29]

BOARD OF TREAS^{Y},
April 28th, 1785.

The Board of Treasury to whom the Petition of Jeremiah Jackson, William Alexander, Robert Wilkin, Blackall William Ball, Edward Butler, and James Gilchrist, late Officers in the Pennsylvania Line was referr'd, Report:

That they find on a Conference with the Secretary at War that Colonels Thomas Craig and other Officers of that line who returned from the Southern Army in March, 1782, on account of a temporary Reform in the Pennsylvania line were paid, respectively, the sum of Thirty dollars as an extra allowance to defray travelling expences; they therefore submit to Congress the following Resolution:[2]

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[1] This report is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 81, II, folio 83. According to indorsement it was read April 28. See *post*, May 1. A copy by Roger Alden, which includes Otto's note of April 18, 1786, is on folio 91.

APRIL 28: The following committee was appointed: Mr. [Rufus] King, Mr. [Pierse] Long and Mr. [Stephen Mix] Mitchell, on the "Petition of Caleb Stark for depreciation." The petition is in No. 42, VII, folio 249.

Committee Book 190.

Also, according to indorsement, was read a letter of April 27, from the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, forwarding a letter from David Beveridge, referring to a former application to Congress for redress for his suffering in Havana, with a copy of the orders of the Court of Spain to the Governor of Havana. The papers were returned to the Office for Foreign Affairs October 13, 1786. Jay's letter is in No. 80, II, folio 239.

Also was read a petition of John McKennon asking for financial assistance. It is in No. 42, V, folio 379.

Also was read a letter from Governor Richard Caswell, dated April 3, 1786, forwarding a North Carolina act for relief of soldiers and sailors disabled by the war and regretting the delay in delegates going to Congress. It is in No. 72, folio 241. The act, dated December 29, 1785, is in No. 76, folio 81.

[2] This report, signed by Samuel Osgood and Walter Livingston, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 138, I, folio 625. According to indorsement it was read April 29 and passed August 9. The resolution submitted is spread *verbatim* on the Journal of August 9. See *ante*, April 26.

MONDAY, MAY 1, 1786.

Congress assembled. Present, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia and South Carolina; and from New Hampshire, Mr. [Pierse] Long, and from Delaware, Mr. [John] Patten.

Mr. Patten produced credentials, dated the thirtieth day of November, 1785, by which it appears, that the Hon^ble^ Gunning Bedford, jun^r^, John Vining, John Patten, Thomas Rodney and William Peery, Esquires are empowered and authorised to represent the State of Delaware in the United States in Congress assembled, until the first Monday in November, 1786.

The Delaware State, To all whom these Presents shall come, send Greeting:

[SEAL]

Nichls. Van Dyke.

Whereas our General Assembly at their Sessions of Assembly held at Dover on the Fourth Day of this present Month of November did, according to the Form prescribed by the Constitution, elect the Honorable Gunning Bedford Jun^r^, John Vining, John Patten, Thomas Rodney and William Peery, Esquires, Delegates to represent this State in the Congress of the United States of America, until the first Monday in November next.

Now Know ye, that We do by these Presents and in pursuance of the said appointment, commissionate the said Gunning Bedford Jun^r^, John Vining, John Patten, Thomas Rodney, and William Peery Delegates to represent the said State in the Congress of the United States Aforesaid, hereby vesting them severally and respectively with all and singular the Privileges, Powers, and Authorities to the said Office or Place of Delegate belonging by Virtue of the said Constitution and the Appointment aforesaid: To have and to hold to them the said Gunning Bedford Jun^r^, John Vining, John Patten, Thomas Rodney, and William Peery severally and respectively the said Office or Place of Delegate as aforesaid during the Term aforesaid, unless they, or either of them, shall in the Mean Time be superseded by our General Assembly, agreeable to the Constitution aforesaid.

In Testimony whereof We have caused our Great-Seal to be hereunto affixed. Witness His Excellency Nicholas Van Dyke Esquire, our President, Captain-General and Commander in Chief, at New Castle, the thirtieth Day of November in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty-Five, and in the Tenth Year of our Independency.

Attest:

JA^s^ BOOTH S^y^.[1]

A letter, of April 27th, 1786, from the Board of treasury, with several letters which passed between the said Board and Abraham Yates, Junior Esqr relative to the oath of Office to be taken by persons employed in the service of the United States, being under consideration,

A motion was made by Mr. [Nathan] Dane, seconded by Mr. [Pierse] Long,

Whereas Abraham Yates, Junior, heretofore appointed Commissioner of the Continental Loan Office for the State of New York, hath refused to take the oath of office, in that behalf, prescribed by the United States in Congress assembled, *Resolved*, That Congress consider the said office as vacant, and that Wednesday next be assigned for the election of a Commissioner to that office.[2]

A motion was then made by Mr. [Melancton] Smith, seconded by Mr. [John] Lawrance, to postpone that motion to take up the following:

Whereas Abraham Yates, Junr appointed to the Office of Commissioner of the Continental Loan Office of the State of New York, did, on the sixth of March, 1786, enter into bonds to the United States, with two sureties, himself in 26,000 dollars, and John Lansing

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[1] This credential is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, Delaware, *Credentials*. According to indorsement it was read May 1. It is entered in the *Record of Credentials, No. 179*, but not in the Journals.

[2] This motion, in the writing of Nathan Dane, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 29, folio 219. See *ante*, April 28. In No. 55, folio 171 is a memorandum of this proceeding, in the writing of Roger Alden; it is of interest as showing the method of recording the proceedings prior to entering them in the Journal.

New York May —

Reports having been circulated among the Indians that the King of England had never ceded to the United States the lands which the Indians Occupy to the Southward of the great lakes in the western territory, and as a proof of this they having been told that the King of England ſtill retained his posts in that Country.—— To obtain ſatisfactory information on this ſubject Captain O'Beel or the Cornplanter a Chief of the Seneca Nation with five others were deputed in behalf of ſeveral Nations of Indians to Viſit Congreſs, and to enquire for themselves whether their lands had or had not been given up at the late treaty of peace between Great Britain and the United States; they were encouraged in this design by the Commiſsioners appointed by Congreſs for holding Treaties with them. On his way to Congreſs Capt O'Beel opened his design at Carliſle in a ſpeech addreſsed to Genl Butler in the following words (here insert his ſpeech at Carliſle)

Captain O'Beel proceeded on his Journey to New York. Congreſs agreed to receive a Visit from him and his aſsociates on the 2 Instant. Upon his being introduced he spoke as follows.... "Brothers of the thirteen fires I am glad to ſee you. It gives me pleasure to see you met in Council ~~to consult~~ about public affairs. May the great Spirit above direct you to ſuch measures as are good. I wish to put the chains together and to make the thirteen fires burn brighter. We thank you for sending this man (General Butler) amongst us. We know him to be a good man, and wish he might be continued to do buſineſs between us. One man cannot do every thing, we therefore wish you would fix upon another man to help him. We have long known general Morris and would be pleased you would appoint him. He is also ~~is~~ a very good man, and much beloved by the Indians. We wish you would appoint men to whom we might apply for a redreſs of any evils that may be done us. We pray the great Spirit above to direct you and us that we may live together in peace.

Brothers I have spoke my mind on other matters to General Butler at Carlisle and he promiſed to ſend my talk to you. I hope you have received it, and that you will give me an Answer to what I have said; I need not ſay it again as you know it already." ——

The Cornplanter and his aſsociates accompanied by Generals Butler &

Parsons Commiſsioners for holding Treaties with the Indians and Captain — Hutchins Geographer to the United States were again introduced to Congreſs on the 5th Instant. The Honorable David Ramsay Chairman of Congreſs then addreſsed them as follows. —

"Brothers

We are glad to see you and to find that you have so great a friendship for our people. The United States alone poſseſs the sovereign power within the limits described at the late Treaty of peace between them and the King of England. The white people who are subjects of that King must move off from all the lands within these limits. The United States are therefore the most natural friends and Brothers of the Indians, as they will remain with them, when all the rest are gone. The United States are now at peace with the King of England and all the Kings of Europe. When that peace was made at the close of the late war the King of England gave up to the United States all the lands to the South of the great lakes, which are described in this Treaty (The ratification of the definitive treaty signed with the hand of the King of great Britain was then produced and its contents explained to Captain O'Beel) Here is the name of the King of England subscribed with his own hand and in this he gives to the United States the land of the Indians therein described. The ~~Treaty~~ Treaty which our Commiſsioners have shewn you is a true Copy from this Original. you may aſsure your Nation, and all the Indian Nations that what the Commiſsioners of the United States have told them is true, and that all the treaties lately made with them, were made by order of Congreſs; and that Congreſs will faithfully keep their engagements as specified in these Treaties. you may also aſsure the Indians that they tell lies, who say that the King of England has not in his late Treaty with the United States given up to them the lands of the Indians. They are also bad men who say, that the United States will not abide by the Treaties, which they have lately made with the Indians by their Commiſsioners.

The United States will take care that none of their Citizens shall intrude upon the Indians within the bounds which in the late Treaties were allotted for them to hunt and live upon; and if any of the people of the United States shall molest the Indians within the said bounds, upon a proper Representation they shall be called to account for it.—

Congreſs have under their Consideration a plan to open the path between them and the Indian Nations, and to ſend a trade among them, and will do what is right and proper for the Indians.— We believe what you have ſaid, and that you have been appointed to ſpeak to us in behalf of your Nation. We do not therefore think it neceſsary at present, to ſend any of our beloved men to your Council fire; but when it shall be neceſsary we will do it. ——

Congreſs recommend it to you and all the Indians to remain quietly, and peaceably on the lands allotted to them by the late Treaties; and if the people belonging to any other Nation, disturb them within those lines, Congreſs desire that the Indians will make a proper Representation of the matter to them, and they will inform the King of those people of the conduct of his ſubjects and will use their endeavors that the Indians shall have juſtice done them. ——

We present to you Captain Hutchins who is the Officer appointed by Congreſs to ſurvey the lands purchased from the Indians at the late treaties. We recommend him and his Companions to your kind Offices and protection while agreeably to our orders he is employed in doing our busineſs.—

Congreſs hopes to enjoy the friendship of the Indian Nations, and to live with them like brothers as long as the Sun and Moon shall last. We recommend to you peace and a ſteady adherence to the Treaties made between the thirteen States and your people. We wish you a good Journey home, and pray that the great Spirit above may direct you, and take you under his ſpecial care"

"To this Captain O'Beel made a short reply as follows —

Brothers,

What you have ſaid is good, (You advise to what is peace

My mind has been diſpoſed to war, but you wisely recommend peace, a

I thank you for your advice, and for the good things you have said, and pray that the Great Spirit above may take care of you." ——

Copy — No 12.a

The publication made
by the Chairman of Con-
gress respecting the
speeches & audiences
of Capt O'Beel the Corn-
planter —

May 1786 —

Copy of a letter from Major John Palsgrave Wyllys commanding the troops in the service of the United States on the Ohio. dated Fort Mc Intosh 3d May 1786.-

Sir

In consequence of the enclosed letter from captain Finney I have directed two companies to move down the river: captain Zieglers will go on to reinforce the post at the Great Miami - captain Strongs I propose leaving at Fort Harmar in order that it may be in readineſs to operate should the post below be still more endangered or to aſsist in defending Fort Harmar should it be attacked; as the appearance of the indians in that quarter gives room for suspicion

The troops will set out tomorrow I think it proper for me to go on with them as far as Fort Harmar at which place I shall remain unleſs the situation of the post at the Miami should be such as may make it neceſsary for me to proceed with captain Zeigler Major Hamtramck will command here I think this post at present in no danger in case it should be troops may soon move from the Muskinghum to reinforce it

Since my last of the 24th of April I have receivd intelligence that Sir John Johnson has invited the indians particularly the six nations to a treaty to be held at Niagara and that some of those indians who lately applied for corn to plant and for farming tools are gone to him.

It appears by many circumstances that the six nations are much divided in their councils – The Cornplanter seems to be at the head of one party and in favor of the treaty held at Fort Stanwix but the party opposed to it seems the most numerous

I have the honor to be Sir
With the greatest respect
Your most obedient
and humbl. Serv.t
John P. Wyllys Major

The honorable
The Secretary at War

BOARD OF TREASURY,
May 4th, 1786.

SIR, Agreeably to the Order of Congress of the 24th of March last, directing the Board of Treasury to Report an Estimate of the Expence that will necessary arise in the Department for settling the Accounts of the five late Departments, we submit the following Estimate:

One Commissioner		1, 500
Two Assistants	@800	1, 600
Five Clerks	@500	2, 500
Five Do	@400	2, 000
for Contingencies		1, 400
	Dolls	9, 000

We apprehend that proper Characters as Assistants cannot be procured under 800 Dolls per annum, and that it will be necessary to employ two at least for this Purpose.

The Contingencies of Office we have placed at 1,400 Dollars if there should be three Offices opened in different Parts of the United States, at the same time, estimating according to the Contingent Expenses of the Offices that are now in the several States, it will not be less than this sum.

We are with respect [1]

To His Excellency,

The President of Congress.

FRIDAY, MAY 5, 1786.

Congress assembled. Present, as yesterday.

Agreeable to an order, captain O'Beal, alias the Cornplanter, with his Associates, was again admitted, ~~to an audience, attended by the Commissioners for the middle de-~~

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[1] This report, signed by Samuel Osgood and Walter Livingston, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 139, folio 113. According to indorsement it was read this day.

Also on this day Roger Alden, Deputy Secretary of Congress, wrote to the Secretary for Foreign Affairs that "Friday the 5th Inst. at12 °Clock, is appointed for a second visit from the Seneca Chief and his Associates" and requesting Jay to send the original treaty of peace with Great Britain to the Secretary's office for use on this occasion. See *ante*, May 2. Alden's letter is in No. 55, folio 299.

~~partment of Indians Affairs, and the Geographer of the United States,~~ and the chairman in behalf of Congress addressed the Indian Chief, and returned an answer to the speech delivered the 2d Instant, and to the Talks transmitted by General Butler.

. . . The Honorable David Ramsay, Chairman of Congress then addressed them as follows:

"Brothers: We are glad to see you and to find that you have so great a friendship for our people. The United States alone possess the sovereign power within the limits described at the late Treaty of peace between them and the King of England. The white people who are subjects of that King must move off from all the lands within these limits. The United States are therefore the most natural friends and Brothers of the Indians, as they will remain with them, when all the rest are gone. The United States are now at peace with the King of England and all the Kings of Europe. When that peace was made at the close of the late war the King of England gave up to the United States all the lands to the South of the great Lakes which are described in this Treaty. (The ratification of the definitive treaty signed with the hand of the King of great Britain was then produced and its contents explained to Captain O'Beal.) Here is the name of the King of England subscribed with his own hand and in this he gives to the United States the land of the Indians therein described. The Treaty which our Commissioners have shewn you is a true Copy from this Original. You may assure your Nation and all the Indian Nations that what the Commissioners of the United States have told them is true, and that all the treaties lately made with them were made by order of Congress; and that Congress will faithfully keep their engagements as specified in these Treaties. You may also assure the Indians that they tell lies, who say that the King of England has not in his late Treaty with the United States given up, to them the lands of the Indians. They are also bad men who say, that the United States will not abide by the Treaties, which they have lately made with the Indians by these Commissioners.

"The United States will take care that none of their Citizens shall intrude upon the Indians within the bounds which in the late Treaties were allotted for them to hunt and live upon; and if any of the people of the United States shall molest the Indians within the said bounds, upon a proper Representation they shall be called to account for it.

"Congress have under their considerationd a plan to open the path between them and the Indian Nations, and to send a trade among them, and will do what is right and proper for the Indians. We believe what you said, and that you have been appointed to speak to us in behalf of your Nation. We do not therefore think it necessary at present, to send any of our beloved men to your Council fire, but when it shall be necessary we will do it.

"Congress recommend it to you and all the Indians to remain quietly and peaceably on the lands allotted to them by the late Treaties; and if the people belonging to any other Nation, disturb them within those lines, Congress desire that the Indians will make a proper Representation of the matter to them, and they will inform the King of those people of the conduct of his subjects and will use their endeavors that the Indians shall have justice done them.

"We present to you Captain Hutchins who is the Officer appointed by Congress to survey the lands purchased from the Indians at the late treaties. We recommend him and his Companions to your kind Offices and protection while agreeably to our orders he is employed in doing our business.

"Congress hopes to enjoy the friendship of the Indian Nations, and to live with them like brothers as long as the Sun and Moon shall last. We recommend to you peace and a steady adherence to the Treaties made between the thirteen States and your people. We wish you a good Journey home, and pray that the great spirit above may direct you, and take you under his special care."

To this Captain O'Beel made a short reply, as follows:

"Brothers, What you have said is good. You advise to what is proven. My mind has been disposed to war, but you wisely recommend peace, and I thank you for your advice, and for the good things you have said, and pray that the Great Spirit above may take care of you." [1]

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[1] This record, in the writing of Henry Remsen, Jr., forms the latter portion of "The publication made by the Chairman of Congress respecting the speeches and audiences of Capt O'Beel, the Cornplanter, May, 1786." It is in No. 56, folio 407, and is indorsed by Roger Alden as quoted.

[Motion M^{r} King]

Whereas a reform in the public expenditures is at all times desirable *Resolved,* That so much of the Resolution of the 24 of March as grants a salary of 1,500 dollars to the commissioner to be appointed for the Settlement of the accounts of the 5 Great Departments be repealed, and that there be allowed to such Commissioner Dollars annually during the time he shall be continued in Office.[1]

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 1786.

Six states assembled; namely, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, North Carolina and South Carolina; and from New Hampshire, Mr. [Pierse] Long; from Rhode Island, Mr. [James] Manning; from Connecticut, Mr. [Stephen Mix] Mitchell; from New York, Mr. [Melancton] Smith; from Maryland, Mr. [William] Hindman, and from Virginia, Mr. [James] Monroe.

[2]MONDAY, MAY 8, 1786.

Congress assembled. Present, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia; and from the state of New Hampshire, Mr. [Pierse] Long.

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[1] This motion, in the writing of Rufus King, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 36, III, folio 251. According to indorsement it was offered May 5.

MAY 5: On this day the petition of Nahum Akerman "for compensation for losses while a Post rider" between Portsmouth and Boston, was read and referred to the Committee on the Post Office to wit. Mr. [William] Grayson, Mr. [John] Kean, Mr. [William Samuel] Johnson, Mr. [John Bubenheim] Bayard and Mr. [Nathaniel] Gorham. This committee was renewed February 12, 1787. Ackerman's petition is in No. 42, I, folio 87.

Committee Book No. 190.

Also, according to indorsement, Mr. Rufus King's motion of April 20, 1786, on the Commissioners for settling accounts of the Quartermaster and Commissary departments, was on May 5 "Debated and lost—report revived by new motion—and passed 8th May" see *ante*, April 20. King's motion is in No. 19, I, folio 463.

[2] Thomson here resumes the entries.

To all People to whom these presents shall or may come — We John Sjehowane, Gedion Dewighnidagge, Esras Tikjerere — native Indians of the Province of New York send Greeting. Know Ye that for sundry good causes and lawful Considerations us thereunto moving, but more especially for the love and esteem which we have and bear unto our Pastor the Revd. Mr. Henry Barclay, and also for and in consideration of the sum of five Shillings currant mony of the province afforesaid unto us in hand paid att and before the ensealing and delivery hereof the receipt whereof we do hereby acknowledge and that therewith we are fully paid & contented and thereof and therefrom & of and from every part and parcel thereof do fully clearly & absolutely acquit exonerate & discharge him the said Henry Barclay his Heirs Executors Administrators & assigns & every of them for ever by these presents Have freely & Voluntarily by and with the Consent of our Castle given granted released & forever quit Claim and by these presents for us and our Descendants do give grant release & for ever quit claim unto our most gracious Soveraign Lord George the second by the Grace of God of Great Brittain France and Ireland King defender of the faith & his heirs successors and assigns all our Right Title & Interest, claim property demand & possession of in & to all that Tract of Land scituate lying & being in the County of albany on the South Side of the Maquase River Beginning Eleven Chains and forty Links, on a South forty eight degrees East Course from the said River, being the Westermost Corner of the Land now belonging to and being in the possession of John Wemp and runs from thence South fifty Eaight degrees & thirty Minutes West, twenty five chains & twenty Links, and South forty degrees & thirty minutes East one hundred & six — chains, and North fifty five degrees & thirty Minutes East thirty four chains & fifty Links to the Southermost corner of the aforesaid Land belonging to John Wemp, and along the said Land north forty five degrees & thirty minutes West Eighty Chains, and North forty eight degrees west twenty five chains & sixty Links to the place where it first began; Containing three hundred acres and the allowance for Highways with all manner of Woods Underwoods, Trees, Mines Minerals, Quarries Hereditaments and appurtenances whatsoever and the Reversion and Reversions Remainder & Remainders, Rents, Issues and profits thereof: To have and to hold all and singular the above bargained premises with the apurtinances to our said most gracious Sovereign Lord King George the Second his Heirs Successors and assigns to the sole & only proper use benefit & behoofe of our said most Gracious Sovereign Lord his Heirs Successors & assigns forever: In Testimony whereof We have hereunto set our marks & seals this twenty forth day of November in the fourteenth year of his Majesty's Reign annoq Domini one thousand seven hundred & forty

Signed sealed & Delivered
in presence of —
Yan Wemp
Lourans Claesen

his
John Sejehowane (L.S)
mark

his
Gedion Dewighnidoge (L.S)
mark

his
Esras Tikjerere (L.S)
mark

E4.

The aforegoing is a true Copy of the original Indian Deed remaining in the Secretary's office of the State of New York Examined and Compared therewith this 9th May 1786

By me Robt Harpur D. Secry

Office Copy of Henry Barclay's
Indian Deed of
the 24th Novr. 1740

Col. Troup C. Benson

391

New York 16th May 1786

Sir

I have the honor to enclose to your Excellency a speech delivered to me yesterday by the Seneca chief Capt. O'Beel and his com=panions which they requested I would lay before Congress.

I beg leave also to inform your Excellency that the present Indian Deputies were obliged to direct the Commissioners to [illegible] by the [illegible] to the amount of 403 Dollars, and that they are ready to return, but that no provision has been made for the payment of their expences, or the pay of the Interpreter.

I have the honor to be
Your Excellency's most obed.
Hble Servt
Richd. Butler

His Excellency
the President of Congress

Letter 16th May 1786
Genl Richd Butler -
transmitting a speech
delivered by Capt ABeel.

Read May 16th 1786 -

May 19th
Referred to
Mr Mitchell
Mr McKean
Mr King

Letter May 16th. 1786
Genl. R. Butler —
inclosing a speech from
Capt. O'Beal —
reported on — —
Acted on May 24. 1786 R

Public

To His Excellency
The President of Congress

May 14. 1786

Captain O'Beel with his companions this morning waited on General Butler & addressed him as follows.

Brother

I request that you will inform Congress of the high sense which I have of the kindness they have shewn to me and my People. It has sunk deep into my heart and I shall never forget it.

I am sorry to hear that bad news has arrived concerning the People behind our backs. I feel for the United States because they have been so long good natured and have passed over the unmerited misconduct of the Indians towards them. I feel as much for them as they can feel for themselves and Congress may be assured that I shall as long as I live remain firmly attached to their interest.

Brother

I told you that it was my wish to return to my nation as soon as possible that I might take the tom-hawk out of the hands of the Indians and set them right — for the British have never taken it from them to this day. They have only told them to lay it by their side. Brother Be strong — and assist me to return for this purpose that I may send to the western nations on my arrival at Fort Pitt.

Brother. I earnestly hope that Congress will give me a decisive answer, whether they will immediately appoint some Person in whom they can confide to remain at some convenient place on the Frontier that we may have an opportunity of corresponding with the 13 fires and of communicating to them whatever may come within our knowledge respecting Indian matters, that I may inform the nations thereof

I well know the quarter whence all theſe troubles have sprung --My intention is to put a ſtop to them. Perhaps I may be killed but whatever the ſucceſs of my attempt may be, I think it my Duty ſince we have taken each other by the hand, to uſe every endeavour in my power to punish those who disturb your peace. Brother —Believe what I say! for, be aſsured that whatever may be done behind my back I myself will never deceive you. I have all along feared the influence of a people to whom I have been lately attached—I am fully convinced o' the injustice of their conduct in leading the Indians to strike at the people of this land, and I am determined, and will be ready to ſtrike any nation or People, who may strike, or disturb the Peace of the United States.

Brother

I am certain that the Six nations have too great a regard for me to behave illy, while they know that I am here upon buſineſs. I hope that on my return every thing therefore will be well with them, and for this purpose I request that you will ſend ſome Person to be a witneſs of my conduct on my return to my Nation and of what may be concluded on at our Council-fire. Brother I have nothing more to say to you now, than to request you to beg Congreſs not to throw away my words or think lightly of my ſpeeches. but ſend ſome Person to put some chunks together at Fort Pitt to which place I wish to return as ſpeedily as poſsible by the same way which I came. I will inform you as soon as I return home of the ſituation of affairs in that quarter

(a String)

NB.

He further added that he wishes Congress to attend to the Speech which he made to General Butler at Carlisle, wherein he expresses his wish that the interest of the United States and of his nation may ~~be continued~~ in one another, again repeating his determination and readiness in person and with all his Interest to strike any nation who shou'd strike, or disturb the Peace of the 13 fires.

To y^e foregoing Speech General Butler replied

"That he wou'd lay Cap^n O'Bail's speech before the great Council of the 13 fires. & that so soon as he shou'd obtain their answer or Instructions he wou'd communicate them to him."

New york May 15^th 1786

Delivered to General Butler this morning

attest. A. Campbell Secy

to y^e Commissioners of the U.S.

Captⁿ. Abeels speech
at York May 15th 1786

refugees as had furnished the late armies of these states with any sort of supplies and report thereon to Congress.

That hereupon M^{r} Cazeau applied to the Commissioner and by the report of the board of treasury to whom the report of the Com^{r} was referred it appears that the claims of F. Cazeau were not supported by any other evidence than his own deposition and that in the opinion of the board stronger proof was necessary to establish his claim.

Upon which report Congress on the 2 feby, 1786, Repealed the several resolves of the 18 March, 1784, relative to the claims of Francis Cazeau (excepting the first third and fourth) and the resolves of the 7 of June, 1785.

As therefore by the Act of 27 feby, 1783, All those for the settlement of whose accounts no special provision is made either by reference to the states or by the appointment of Commissioners for States or departments or otherwise are to settle their Accounts at the treasury in the usual manner.

The Secretary of Congress reports That the Memorial of F. Cazeau be referred to the board of treasury to take order for the settlement of his Account in the usual manner.[1]

passed May 19.

On the letter of 16 May from R. Butler covering a speech delivered to him by Capt. Obeel and informing that the present for the Indians to the Amount of 403 dollars has been delivered and that they are ready to return home but that no provision has been made for the payment of their expences or the pay of the interpreters, the Secretary of Congress reports:

That the letter of the 16 May from R. Butler with the speech delivered to him by the Indians be referred to a Com^{ee}.[1]

passed May 19

FRIDAY, MAY 19, 1786.

Congress assembled. Present, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina and Georgia; and from New Hampshire, Mr. [Pierse] Long; from Rhode Island, Mr. [James] Manning, and from South Carolina, Mr. [Charles] Pinckney.

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[1] This proceeding is entered by Thomson in *Reports of the Secretary of Congress*, No. 180.

Congress took into consideration the report of a committee, consisting of Mr. [Arthur] St. Clair, Mr. [Henry] Lee and Mr. [John] Lawrance, to whom was referred a report of the Secretary at War, on the articles of War and courts Martial; and the following paragraph being under debate:

> That all persons belonging to the forces of the United States, called to give evidence in any cause before a court martial, who shall refuse to give evidence, shall be punished for such refusal at the discretion of such court martial.

A motion was made by Mr. [Charles] Pinckney, seconded by Mr. [John Bubenheim] Bayard, to strike out the words "belonging to the forces of the United States" And on the question, shall those words stand? the yeas and nays being required by Mr. [Rufus] King,

New Hampshire,		
Mr. Long,	ay	*
Massachusetts,		
Mr. Gorham,	ay	ay
King,	ay	
Dane,	ay	
Rhode Island,		
Mr. Manning,	ay	*
Connecticut,		
Mr. Johnson,	no	div.
Mitchell,	ay	
New York,		
Mr. Haring,	ay	ay
Smith,	ay	
New Jersey,		
Mr. Symmes,	ay	ay
Hornblower,	ay	
Pennsylvania,		
Mr. Bayard,	no	no
Wilson,	no	
St. Clair,	no	
Delaware,		
Mr. Patten,	no	no
Rodney,	no	
Maryland,		
Mr. Hindman,	no	no
Harrison,	no	
Virginia,		
Mr. Grayson,	no	*
North Carolina,		
Mr. Bloodworth,	ay	ay
White,	ay	
South Carolina,		
Mr. Pinckney,	no	*
Georgia,		
Mr. Few,	ay	*

So the question was lost, and the words were struck out.

The Committee consisting of Mr. [Pierse] Long, Mr. [William] Blount and Mr. [Timothy] Bloodworth to whom was refer'd the report of the paymaster of army acc^{ts} on the Memorial of Mr. John

Wheelock submit the following facts: That he was appointed a Lieut. Col^{o} in Col^{o} Beedles regiment on the 15 November, 1777, as appears by a Certificate from the Secretary at War and was disbanded with said regiment on the 27th November, 1778. That he was directed by General Gates on the 27th April, 1779, to proceed to Congress on public business, and has produced depositions and other evidence which to your committee are satisfactory, that he was, by the order of General Gates, continued in service from the time the Regiment was disbanded until the 20th June, 1779, and ought to receive pay therefore; but as he was intitled to receive the usual rations and forage which were generally supposed to be granted in lieu of expences, his claims for Expences cannot be allowed

The Committee therefore Submit the following Resolution:

That John Wheelock late a Lieut. Col^{o} in Col^{o} Beedles Regiment be allowed the pay and Emoluments of Lieu^{t} Col^{o} from the 15 November, 1777, until the 20th June, 1779, and that the paymaster of army Accounts take order accordingly.[1]

The Committee consisting of Mr. [Charles] Pinckney, Mr. [Rufus] King, Mr. [William Samuel] Johnson, Mr. [William] Grayson and Mr. [William] Hindman to whom were referred several memorials and petitions from persons claiming vessels in the courts of Admiralty in some of the states praying for hearings and rehearings before the court of appeals, Report:

That it appears reasonable and proper that rehearings or new trials should be granted in every case where justice may require it [under the limitations herein after mentioned.

That the Judges of the Court of appeals be authorised and directed in every cause which may be brought before them to grant rehearings or new trials of the same wherever justice and right may in their opinion require it; provided that such rehearing shall not be extended to cases which Originated previous to the day of ; provided also that an order for a rehearing or new trial shall in no instance suspend the execution of the first sentence, if the party in whose favor it may be shall give satisfactory security for the payment of such costs and damages as the Court on rehearing the cause and reversing the degree may think proper to award; and that the said Judges be entitled to dollars per day during the time they shall attend the sitting of the said Courts, and including the time they shall be necessarily employed in travelling to and from the said Courts.

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[1] This report, in the writing of Pierse Long, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 19, VI, folio 537. According to indorsement it was read May 19 and May 29 "The Memorial and papers on which these reports are founded were withdrawn and delivered to Mr. Long." See *ante*, December 14, 1781.

Resolved, That the said Court assemble at the City of New York on the day of next for the dispatch of such business as may then and there be before them.][1]

The Board of Treasury to whom was Referred the Memorial of Thomas Chase, late Deputy Quarter Master General in the State of Massachusetts, Praying that his Accounts may be Adjusted by the Commissioner of Accounts for the State of Massachusetts, Beg leave to Report:

That a Compliance with the request of the Memorialist would Establish a Precedent, Subversive of the System adopted by Congress, for adjusting the Account, of the Staff Departments of the late Army.

They therefore Submit to the Consideration of Congress the following Resolve—

That the Memorial of Thomas Chase, late Deputy Quarter Master General for the State of Massachusetts, praying that his Accounts may be Adjusted by the Commissioner of Accounts for that State, cannot be complied with; but that the Memorialist be referred for the Settlement of his Accounts with the United States, to the Commissioner for such purpose Appointed by the Resolve of Congress of the 8th Instant.

All which is submitted.[2]

May 17th, 1786.

The Board of Treasury to whom was Referred the Memorial of Rachel Hart of the 24th April last, Beg leave to Report:

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[1] This report, in the writing of Charles Pinckney, except the portion in brackets which is in the writing of a clerk, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 28, folio 215. According to indorsement it was read May 19 and "25 May, 1786, Monday 29 May assigned for Consideration, passed June 27, 1786." The complete report, as submitted May 19, was only that part in Pinckney's writing; the part in a clerk's writing seems to have been the developments of the proceedings of either May 25 or May 29. A printed copy, bearing ms. alterations by Rufus King, is in No. 28, folio 201.

[2] This report, signed by Samuel Osgood, Walter Livingston, and Arthur Lee, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 138, I, folio 215. According to indorsement it was read May 19; Committee Book No. 189 states that it was transferred.

That the Memorialist in consequence of Embarrassments occasioned by the Death of her late Husband (who attended the British Prisoners during the late War, in the capacity of a Surgeon, in the State of Maryland) solicits the payment of a Certificate granted to her deceased Husband, for the Services abovementioned.

On this Application the Board beg leave to observe that, as the United States in Congress have called upon the several States to make provision for the Payment of the Interest due on the National Debt, without any prospect of obtaining Funds in any degree adequate to this purpose, it would be improper to attempt the payment of the Principal of any Liquidated Claims, under any Circumstances whatsoever.

They therefore Submit to the Consideration of Congress the following Resolve:

That the Memorial of Rachel Hart praying Payment of a Certificate issued to her late Husband on account of Services is Inadmissible.

All which is humbly submitted.[1]

May 18th, 1786.

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[1] This report, signed by Samuel Osgood, Walter Livingston, and Arthur Lee, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 138, I, folio 589. According to indorsement it was read May 19; Committee Book No. 189 states that it was transferred.

May 19: The following committee was appointed: Mr. [Stephen Mix] Mitchell, Mr. [John] Kean and Mr. [Rufus] King, on a "Letter of May 16th. Genl Butler with a speech from Capt O'Beal." A report was rendered May 22. Butler's letter, with O'Beal's speech is in No. 56, folios 391–397.

Also "the Memorial of Francis Cazeau, for the settlement of his accounts; in the usual manner" was referred to the Board of Treasury to take order. According to an indorsement in No. 41, II, folio 293, on May 27 the Secretary for Foreign Affairs was ordered to "transmit copies of the papers to Mr Jefferson—order taken & papers returned to the Board of treasury June 9th, 1788." This proceeding was also entered in *Resolve Book* No. 123.

Also, the report of the Secretary for Foreign Affairs "on Mr. Pintard's letters of 5 & 12 Decr, 1785. To inform Mr. P. that his letters have been laid before Congress and that they are much pleased with his vigilance and exertions in the instances mentioned in them," was referred back to the Secretary for Foreign Affairs to take order. This proceeding was also entered in *Resolve Book* No. 123. Jay's report is in No. 81, II, folio 115.

Also, the report of the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, "on the representation of the Spanish Encargado de Negocios of the case of Capt Pedro Ermano. To send a copy of the Representation to the Govr of South Carolina and desire him to enquire and inform Congress whether or how far the facts stated therein are founded. To inform Mr Gardoqui of this and assure him that on the arrival

MONDAY, MAY 22, 1786.

Congress assembled. Present, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia; and from New Hampshire, Mr. [Pierse] Long; from Rhode Island, Mr. [James] Manning, and from New Jersey, Mr. [Josiah] Hornblower.

A letter, of the 16th, from Caleb Harris, was read, informing, that "an infirm state of health, and a multiplicity of business, render it necessary for him to resign the appointment of Surveyor of the Western territory for the State of Rhode Island.[1] Whereupon,

Resolved, That the resignation of Caleb Harris be accepted, and that this day be assigned for the election of a Surveyor for the State of Rhode Island, in the room of Caleb Harris, resigned.

Congress proceeded to an election, and, the ballots being taken, Ebenezer Sproat was elected, having been previously nominated by Mr. [James] Manning.

A motion was made by Mr. [William] Houstoun, seconded by Mr. [Arthur] St. Clair,

That Wednesday next be appointed for the reconsideration of the Ordinance passed the 20 May, 1785, and the resolve of the 9th of the present month, for carrying the same into effect.[2]

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of the Governor's answer such further measures shall be immediately taken as circumstances may point out and justice require," was referred back to the Secretary to take order. The proceeding is also entered in *Resolve Book* No. 123. Jay's report is in No. 81, II, folio 111.

Committee Book No. 190.

[1] Harris's letter is in No. 56, folio 177.

[2] This motion, in the writing of William Houstoun, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 36, III, folio 255.

And on the question to agree to this motion, the yeas and nays being required by Mr. [William] Houstoun,

New Hampshire,		
Mr. Long,	no	*
Massachusetts,		
Mr. Gorham,	no	no
King,	no	
Dane,	no	
Connecticut,		
Mr. Johnson,	no	no
Mitchell,	no	
New York,		
Mr. Haring,	no	no
Smith,	no	
New Jersey,		
Mr. Hornblower,	no	*
Pennsylvania,		
Mr. Pettit,	ay	ay
St. Clair,	ay	
Wilson,	ay	
Maryland,		
Mr. Hindman,	no	no
Harrison,	no	
Virginia,		
Mr. Grayson,	ay	ay
Monroe,	ay	
North Carolina,		
Mr. Blount,	ay	ay
Bloodworth,	ay	
White,	ay	
South Carolina,		
Mr. Pinckney,	ay	div.
Kean,	no	
Georgia,		
Mr. Houstoun,	ay	ay
Few,	ay	

So the question was lost.

Congress resumed the Consideration of the report of the Committee, consisting of Mr. [William Samuel] Johnson, Mr. [William] Hindman, Mr. [William] Grayson, Mr. [David] Ramsay, and Mr. [Samuel] Livermore, to whom was referred a motion of the delegates of the State of Connecticut, relative to a cession of part of that State's claim to Western territory; and which report is in the words following:

"That Congress, in behalf of the United States, are ready to accept all the right, title, interest and claim of the State of Connecticut, to certain western lands described in the form of a deed of cession, in the following words, to wit: (Here insert the deed,) tendered to Congress by the delegates of the said State, in pursuance of full powers given them for that purpose, whenever the said delegates shall execute the said deed."[1]

A motion was made by Mr. [Arthur] St. Clair, seconded by Mr. [James] Wilson, to add thereto as follows:

Provided that nothing herein contained shall be construed or understood to affect the decree of the Court of Commissioners, holden at Trenton, on the 12 day of November, A. D. 1782.[2]

And on the question to agree to this Amendment, the yeas and nays being required by Mr. [Arthur] St. Clair,

Massachusetts,		
Mr. Gorham,	ay	no
King,	no	
Dane,	no	
Rhode Island,		
Mr. Manning,	no	*
Connecticut,		
Mr. Johnson,	ay	ay
Mitchell,	ay	
New York,		
Mr. Haring,	no	no
Smith,	no	
New Jersey,		
Mr. Hornblower,	no	*
Pennsylvania,		
Mr. Pettit,	ay	ay
Bayard,	ay	
St. Clair,	ay	
Wilson,	ay	
Maryland,		
Mr. Hindman,	no	no
Harrison,	no	
Virginia,		
Mr. Grayson,	no	no
Monroe,	no	
North Carolina,		
Mr. Blount,	no	no
Bloodworth,	no	
White,	no	
South Carolina,		
Mr. Pinckney,	no	no
Kean,	no	
Georgia,		
Mr. Houstoun,	no	no
Few,	no	

So it passed in the negative.

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[1] On folio 527, No. 30, is a motion in the writing of Rufus King as follows: "Resolved that cong. in behalf of the U. S. are ready to accept all the right, title, interest, & Claim, as well to soil as Jurisdiction of the State of Connecticut, to certain lands described in the following form of a Deed of cession viz^{t} [here insert a Deed including an act with the preamble proposed with the addition of a power to grant the Jurisdiction]:

Whenever the Delegates of the state of Connecticut [duly authorized by the s^{d} State] shall tender the same duly executed." The words in brackets are in an unidentified hand. The motion is undated and presumably was offered either May 11, May 15, or May 22.

[2] This motion, in the writing of a clerk, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 30, folio 547½.

The Com^{tee} [consisting of Mr. Stephen Mix Mitchell, Mr. John Kean and Mr. Rufus King] to whom was referr'd the Speech of Cap^{t} O'Beel and the Letter from Gen^{l} Butler, Report:

That the Bill of Expences incurr^{d} for the Subsistance of Cap^{t} O'Beel and his Associates, and the Allowance to be made to the Interpreter be referr^{d} to the Board of Treasury to take order for adjustment and payment.

And that the Commissioners for holding Treaties with the Indians, be directed to assure Cap^{t} O'Beel that Congress are deliberating upon proper Measures to be taken to continue the Correspondence between the united States and the Indian Nations and that nothing shall be wanting on their part to cultivate Friendship and good Understanding with them.[1]

WAR OFFICE, *May 22^{d}, 1786.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit to Congress copies of two letters from Major Wyllys enclosing a report of captain Hamtramck dated the 27th ultimo, also an extract of a letter of the 1st instant from captain Doughty who had repaired to Fort Pitt in order to examine the state of the artillery and the public stores at that place, and Fort McIntosh. This extract tends to confirm the opinion that the depredations on the Ohio, were perpetrated by Cherokees and other banditti who live on the head waters of the Scioto.

The conference proposed to be held at Niagara will be important, as Butler and Brandt who have been in England may have arrived in Canada by this time, and will undoubtedly be at the treaty. As the future conduct of the indians will probably be influenced by this treaty it would be good policy for the United States to have some sensible friendly indians properly instructed to observe and report the occurrences thereof. It might be the means to ascertain how far the supposed discontents of the indians may have originated or be fomented officially by the servants of the Crown of Great Britain.

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[1] This report, in the writing of Stephen Mix Mitchell, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 30, folio 379. According to indorsement it was read May 22 and acted on May 24.

I shall accordingly direct lieutenant colonel Harmar to endeavor to send suitable agents to the treaty for the before recited purposes. I have the honor etc.

H. Knox.[1]

The honorable
Nathaniel Gorham, Esq^{r}.
Chairman of Congress.

TUESDAY, MAY 23, 1786.

Six states only attended, namely, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Maryland, North Carolina and Georgia; and from New Hampshire, Mr. [Pierse] Long; from Rhode Island, Mr. [James] Manning; from New York, Mr. [Melancton] Smith; from New Jersey, Mr. [Josiah] Hornblower, and from South Carolina, Mr. [Charles] Pinckney; the chairman adjourned Congress till to Morrow at ten o'clock.

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[1] This report is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 150, I, folio 273. According to indorsement it was read May 22. The enclosures mentioned are on folios 277–301.

May 22: The "Mem^{l} of Marinus Willett, late Col. in line of N. York, that the difficulties may be removed which prevent the settlement of the acc^{ts} of said reg^{t}" was referred to the Commissioner of Army Accounts to report. He reported May 24, 1786. Willett's memorial is in No. 41, X, folio 689. According to indorsement it was read May 22 and acted on August 25.

The "Petition of Benj^{n} Pearse [Pierce?] late a gunner of the frigate alliance—for the payment of principal or Interest of certificates for services" was referred to the Board of Treasury to report. The Board reported May 24. The petition is in No. 42, VI, folio 375.

Committee Book No. 190.

On this day also, according to Committee Book No. 189, the report of the Board of Treasury on the memorial of A. Paulint and other Canadian Refugees was delivered. Against this notation Thomson has written: "See Act 30 June."

Also Committee Book No. 189 states that the Board of Treasury delivered in a report on the memorial of Moses Hazen and Udney Hay; against this Thomson made the same notation to act of June 30. The letter from the Board of Treasury, transmitting the report, is in No. 140, I, folio 183.

Also, according to indorsement, were read two letters of May 19, from the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, forwarding letters from Mr. Gardoqui, Count de Galvez, David Humphreys, John Adams, of February 9, and Thomas Jefferson of March 5. Jay's letters are in No. 80, II, folios 345–349.

Also was read a letter from Thomas Hutchins, informing that he would set out for the western country on Tuesday next. It is in No. 60, folio 241.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 1786.

Congress assembled. Present, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia; and from New Hampshire, Mr. [Pierse] Long; from Rhode Island, Mr. [James] Manning, and New Jersey, Mr. [Josiah] Hornblower.

Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee, to whom was referred a motion of the delegates of the state of Connecticut, relative to a cession of part of that State's claim to western territory.

A motion was made by Mr. [James] Wilson, seconded by Mr. [Arthur] St. Clair, that the report be postponed, in Order to take up the following resolution:

That the United States cannot accept the cession of the claim of the State of Connecticut to western territory, tendered to Congress by the delegates of that State, because the acceptance of that cession, in its present form, might be construed to imply the approbation of Congress, of Claims not ceded, and it would be improper for Congress to express any Opinion, either directly or indirectly, on this subject. But since the great object of Congress, in recommending to the state of Connecticut, and to other states, to make cessions of their claims to western territory, has been to establish and secure the tranquillity of the United States, and of every state in the Union that might be affected by such claims or cessions; *Resolved*, in order to obtain that great object on the present occasion, that when the state of Connecticut shall cede and release to the United States, and to the States of New York and Pennsylvania, respectively, all the claim of the said State of Connecticut, to jurisdiction and property of territory westward of the Eastern boundary of the State of New York, the United States in Congress assembled, will thereupon grant, release and confirm to the State of Connecticut, the property, but not the jurisdiction of the territory and tract of land described as follows, that is to say, Beginning at the end of the first degree of North latitude, one hundred and twenty miles westward of the western boundary line of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as now claimed by the said Commonwealth, thence North, to the end of the forty second degree of

I shall accordingly direct lieutenant colonel Harmar to endeavor to send suitable agents to the treaty for the before recited purposes.

I have the honor etc.

H. Knox.[1]

The honorable
Nathaniel Gorham, Esq^{r}.
Chairman of Congress.

TUESDAY, MAY 23, 1786.

Six states only attended, namely, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Maryland, North Carolina and Georgia; and from New Hampshire, Mr. [Pierse] Long; from Rhode Island, Mr. [James] Manning; from New York, Mr. [Melancton] Smith; from New Jersey, Mr. [Josiah] Hornblower, and from South Carolina, Mr. [Charles] Pinckney; the chairman adjourned Congress till to Morrow at ten o'clock.

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Also was read a letter from Thomas Hutchins, informing that he would set out for the western country on Tuesday next. It is in No. 60, folio 241.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 1786.

Congress assembled. Present, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia; and from New Hampshire, Mr. [Pierse] Long; from Rhode Island, Mr. [James] Manning, and New Jersey, Mr. [Josiah] Hornblower.

Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee, to whom was referred a motion of the delegates of the state of Connecticut, relative to a cession of part of that State's claim to western territory.

A motion was made by Mr. [James] Wilson, seconded by Mr. [Arthur] St. Clair, that the report be postponed, in Order to take up the following resolution:

That the United States cannot accept the cession of the claim of the State of Connecticut to western territory, tendered to Congress by the delegates of that State, because the acceptance of that cession, in its present form, might be construed to imply the approbation of Congress, of Claims not ceded, and it would be improper for Congress to express any Opinion, either directly or indirectly, on this subject. But since the great object of Congress, in recommending to the state of Connecticut, and to other states, to make cessions of their claims to western territory, has been to establish and secure the tranquillity of the United States, and of every state in the Union that might be affected by such claims or cessions; *Resolved*, in order to obtain that great object on the present occasion, that when the state of Connecticut shall cede and release to the United States, and to the States of New York and Pennsylvania, respectively, all the claim of the said State of Connecticut, to jurisdiction and property of territory westward of the Eastern boundary of the State of New York, the United States in Congress assembled, will thereupon grant, release and confirm to the State of Connecticut, the property, but not the jurisdiction of the territory and tract of land described as follows, that is to say, Beginning at the end of the first degree of North latitude, one hundred and twenty miles westward of the western boundary line of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as now claimed by the said Commonwealth, thence North, to the end of the forty second degree of

North latitude, thence east to the aforementioned boundary line of Pennsylvania, thence South, to the end of the forty first degree of North latitude, thence West, to the place of beginning.[1]

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[1] The original motion, in the writing of James Wilson, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 30, folio 545. On folio 529 is a motion, in Wilson's handwriting as follows: "Whereas the United States in Congress assembled, by their Resolution of the recommended . And whereas it is proper and reasonable that the said Recommendation should be complied with. And whereas a Part of the Territory formerly claimed by this State lies within the Bounds and Jurisdiction of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; and was, by the fœderal Court held at Trenton in the year 1782 for deciding a Controversy then subsisting between this State and that Commonwealth respecting that Part, decreed to be the Right of that Commonwealth; to which Decree it is the Duty of this State to pay full and exact Obedience:

Be it enacted—"

On the verso of this ms. are the following notes by Wilson:

"Connecticut not impeaching the Decree.
Pennsylvania jealous of its Validity.
2 Degrees.
West Boundary *claimed*.
Why is Congress requested to *accept* if the Acceptance has no Operation?
King: It cannot relate to Pen^a because the Object of the Cession is definite." A copy is on folio 535.

On folio 531 is the following, in the writing of James Monroe: "Provided also that nothing herein contain'd shall be construed to invalidate the rights which the U. S. have under ye acts of cession from the States of Virg^a Mass. and New York, to the lands lying between the Pen^a line and the s^d line westw^d of which the lands are hereby propos'd to be ceded."

On folio 533 is the following: "Whenever the s^d Delegates shall be furnished with full powers to execute and shall execute a deed for that purpose. Provided that the acceptance of the s^d cession shall in no degree be construed to affect the claims of any State or states to any territory which has or shall be ascertained by the decree of a federal Court to be within the territory or jurisdiction of any State or states."

On the question to postpone for the purpose above mentioned, the yeas and nays being required by Mr. [James] Wilson,

New Hampshire,		
Mr. Long,	no	*
Massachusetts,		
Mr. Gorham,	ay	no
King,	no	
Dane,	no	
Rhode Island,		
Mr. Manning,	no	*
Connecticut,		
Mr. Johnson,	ay	ay
Mitchell,	ay	
New York,		
Mr. Haring,	no	div.
Smith,	ay	
New Jersey,		
Mr. Hornblower,	no	*
Pennsylvania,		
Mr. Pettit,	ay	ay
Bayard,	ay	
Wilson,	ay	
St. Clair,	ay	
Maryland,		
Mr. Hindman,	no	no
Harrison,	no	
Virginia,		
Mr. Grayson,	no	no
Monroe,	no	
North Carolina,		
Mr. Blount,	no	no
Bloodworth,	no	
White,	no	
South Carolina,		
Mr. Pinckney,	ay	ay
Kean,	ay	
Georgia,		
Mr. Houstoun,	no	div.
Few,	ay	

So the question was lost.

A motion was then made by Mr. [Charles] Pettit, seconded by Mr. [Josiah] Hornblower, to postpone the report of the committee, in order to take into consideration the following:

That the acceptance by the United States of any cession heretofore made, or which shall hereafter be made, by any State, of the claims of such state to western territory, ought not, nor shall be construed nor understood as confirming, or in any wise strengthening the claim of such state to any such territory not ceded.[1]

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[1] The original motion, in the writing of Charles Pettit, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 30, folio 523.

And on the question to postpone for the purpose above mentioned, the yeas and nays being required by Mr. [Charles] Pettit,

New Hampshire,		
Mr. Long,	ay	*
Massachusetts,		
Mr. Gorham,	no	no
King,	no	
Dane,	no	
Rhode Island,		
Mr. Manning,	ay	*
Connecticut,		
Mr. Johnson,	no	no
Mitchell,	no	
New York,		
Mr. Haring,	ay	div.
Smith,	no	
New Jersey,		
Mr. Hornblower,	ay	*
Pennsylvania,		
Mr. Pettit,	ay	ay
Bayard,	ay	
Wilson,	ay	
St. Clair,	ay	
Maryland,		
Mr. Hindman,	ay	ay
Harrison,	ay	
Virginia,		
Mr. Grayson,	no	no
Monroe,	no	
North Carolina,		
Mr. Blount,	no	no
Bloodworth,	no	
White,	ay	
South Carolina,		
Mr. Pinckney,	no	no
Kean,	no	
Georgia,		
Mr. Houstoun,	no	no
Few,	no	

So the question was lost.

A motion was then made by Mr. [Charles] Pinckney, seconded by Mr. [Arthur] St. Clair, to amend the report by adding,

Provided that the Acceptance of the said cession shall in no degree be construed to affect the claims of any state or states to any territory which has or shall be ascertained by the degree of a federal court, to be within the territory or jurisdiction of any State or States, or to injure the claims of the United States, under acts of cession from any individual State.[1]

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[1] The original motion, in the writing of Charles Pinckney, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 30, folio 541.

A division of the amendment was called for; and on the question to agree to the first clause, as far as the words "jurisdiction of any State or States," inclusive, the yeas and nays being required by Mr. [James] Wilson,

New Hampshire,		
Mr. Long,	no	*
Massachusetts,		
Mr. Gorham,	ay	no
King,	no	
Dane,	no	
Rhode Island,		
Mr. Manning,	no	*
Connecticut,		
Mr. Johnson,	ay	ay
Mitchell,	ay	
New York,		
Mr. Haring,	ay	ay
Smith,	ay	
New Jersey,		
Mr. Hornblower,	no	*
Pennsylvania,		
Mr. Pettit,	ay	ay
Bayard,	ay	
Wilson,	ay	
St. Clair,	ay	
Maryland,		
Mr. Hindman,	no	no
Harrison,	no	
Virginia,		
Mr. Grayson,	ay	ay
Monroe,	ay	
North Carolina,		
Mr. Blount,	ay	ay
Bloodworth,	ay	
White,	no	
South Carolina,		
Mr. Pinckney,	ay	ay
Kean,	ay	
Georgia,		
Mr. Houstoun,	ay	ay
Few,	ay	

So it was resolved in the affirmative.

On the question to agree to the latter clause, the yeas and nays being required by Mr. [Melancton] Smith,

New Hampshire,		
Mr. Long,	ay	*
Massachusetts,		
Mr. Gorham,	no	no
King,	no	
Dane,	no	
Rhode Island,		
Mr. Manning,	ay	*
Connecticut,		
Mr. Johnson,	no	no
Mitchell,	no	
New York,		
Mr. Haring,	ay	ay
Smith,	ay	
New Jersey,		
Mr. Hornblower,	ay	*
Pennsylvania,		
Mr. Pettit,	no	no
Bayard,	no	
Wilson,	no	
St. Clair,	no	
Maryland,		
Mr. Hindman,	ay	ay
Harrison,	ay	
Virginia,		
Mr. Grayson,	ay	ay
Monroe,	ay	
North Carolina,		
Mr. Bloodworth,	ay	ay
White,	ay	
South Carolina,		
Mr. Pinckney,	ay	ay
Kean,	ay	
Georgia,		
Mr. Houstoun,	ay	div.
Few,	no	

So the question was lost.

The report being further amended, adjourned to 11 o'clock tomorrow.

The Board of Treasury to whom was Referred the Petition of Benjamin Pierce late Gunner of the Continental Frigate *Alliance*, in behalf of a number of the late Officers, and Marines of the said Ship when under the Command of Captain Peter Landais, Beg leave to Report:

That the Memorialist in behalf of the Parties abovementioned, prays that he may receive the Amount of Prize Money due on the Captures made by the Frigate *Alliance*.

That it appears from a Receipt of Captain John Paul Jones, who was appointed Agent to receive the Prize Money abovementioned (transmitted to the Office of the Secretary of Foreign Affairs) that there has been paid to the said Agent the sum of One hundred and five thousand, one hundred and eighty-five Livres, three Sol. and six Deniers, on account of Prize Money due the Officers and Crew of the Frigate *Alliance*.

That in consequence of this information the Board have transmitted to the Honb^{le} M^r Jefferson, Minister for the United States at the Court of France, an order on Captain John Paul Jones for the above Sum, as well as for the Sums received by him on Account of Prize Money due to the other American Officers and Seamen, who Served in the Squadron under his Command during the late War.

That 'till Information is received from the said Minister of the payment of the Order above mentioned, and proper Returns made of the Names and Stations of the Officers and Men serving on Board the Frigate *Alliance* at the time the Captures were made, it will be impossible to make any Distribution of the Prize Money due to the said Vessell.

Under these circumstances the Board submit to the consideration of Congress the following Resolves:

That the Board of Treasury be directed forthwith to call upon Captain John Paul Jones lately Commanding the *Bon-homme Richard*, and Captain Peter Landais lately commanding the Frigate *Alliance* for accurate Returns of the Officers and Men serving on Board their respective Vessells, at the time the Captures were made by the late Squadron under the Command of John Paul Jones.[1]

* * * * * * *

May 23^d, 1786.

The Commissioner for settling the accounts of the late Army of the United States to whom was referred the memorial of Marinus Willett, late commanding a regiment of Militia embodied in the State of New York, begs leave to report:

That the Regiment entered the service of the United States at the commencement of the campaign of 1782 under the resolution of Congress of the 2^d day of April, 1781, and continued on the frontiers of the State of New York from that time until the end of the War.

That this resolve of Congress appears to have annexed certain conditions to the admission and payment of the two regiments of

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[1] This report, signed by Samuel Osgood, Walter Livingston, and Arthur Lee, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress* No, 138, II, folio 257. According to indorsement it was read May 24 and passed June 7 on which date the altered resolve and concluding paragraph of the report were entered verbatim on the Journal.

Infantry proposed to be raised by the State of New York, one of which is that the Officers be proportioned to the number of men actually in service and another that the State fill up their quota of Troops for the Continental Army.

That the regiment had its full compliment of Officers when it entered the service excepting the recruiting Lieutenant and a small deficiency in the number of men necessary to compleat the quota of a regiment of Infantry of about forty-nine men.

That it appears by the returns of the War Office that the State of New York was deficient in its quota of Troops from the Continental Army at the commencement of 1781 in Six hundred and ninety-six men. At the commencement of 1782 in Five hundred and fifteen men, and of 1783 in Fourteen hundred and forty-six men.

That the regiment has been paid by the State of New York for the year 1782. That it has been cloathed by the United States in consequence of a resolution of Congress of the 20th day of August, 1782, and that it has been Subsisted and paid the four months advance in the year 1783, in the same manner as the rest of the Army by the direction of the Commander in Chief.

That on this state of facts, the Commissioner begs leave to lay the following question before Congress, whether the regiment shall be settled with for the arrears still due, notwithstanding the conditions of the resolve of April 2d, 1781, have not been complied with.

All which is humbly submitted.

JNO. PIERCE,
Commissr [1]

Office of Army Accounts
May 24, 1786.

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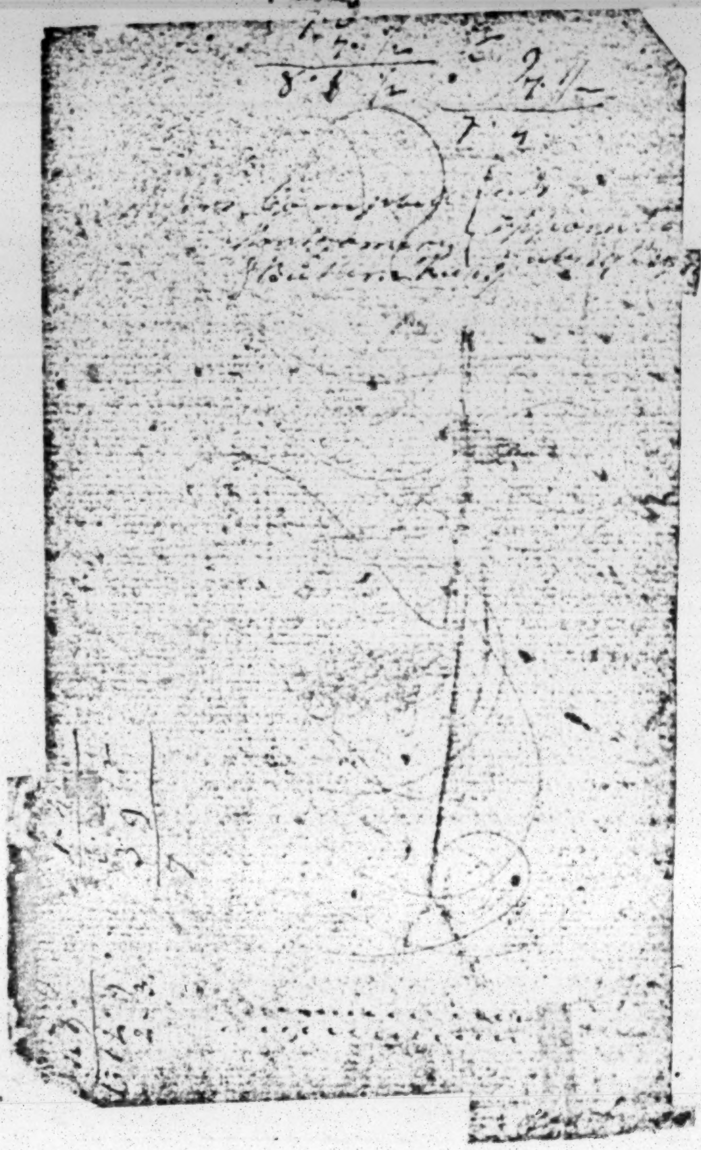
[1] This report is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 62, folio 131. According to indorsement it was read May 24 and on August 9 referred to a committee.

MAY 24: The "Board of Treasury to take order—on the first part of the report of the committee to whom was referred the speech of Capt O'Beel and the letter from Genl Butler—for the payment and adjustment of the bill of expences of Capt O'Beel and his Associates and the allowance to be made to the Interpreter."

The "Commrs for holding treaties with western Indians to take order on the second part of the above report, to assure Capt O'Beel that Congress are deliberating upon proper measures to be taken to continue the correspondence between the United States and the Indian nations and that nothing shall be wanting on their part to cultivate friendship and good understanding with them"

Committee Book No. 190.



603

Brother.

The Commissioners for holding treaties with the Indians have it in command from Congress to assure you that Congress are deliberating on measures to continue the correspondence between the United States and the Indian nations, and that nothing shall be wanting on their part to cultivate friend=ship and good understanding with them:

The Commissioners therefore recommend to Capt. Bird and his people to return to their nation, and assure them of the good intentions of Congress towards them, and to advise the Six nations and all other Indians within the U.S. with whom they have intercourse to remain peaceable and continue in friendship with the United States, they being the only people who can give them protection and supply their wants. They also recommend to the Six nations to send to the west and withdraw from the Shawanoes such of their people as reside among them, and are frequently ~~[illegible]~~ doing mischief. This will be a convincing proof of the determination of the Six nations to keep peace, and prevent the disorderly persons from injuring the Inhabitants of the Frontier —— Brother we wish you & your people safe home, & give you our best wishes

150

New York June 1. 1786

(29)
General Butlers and
Speech to O'Beel with
his answer June 1st 1786

and advise the Wabash & other hostile Indians to desist least they draw down the resentment of the U.S. upon them & their women & children, this—

Sir

New York June 2d 1786

I have the honor to enclose to your Excellency my addreſs to Capt. O'Beel and his aſsociates agreeable to the directions of Congreſs of the 24th of May, with his answer. I also gave him a charge to make himself fully acquainted with the intentions of the British for holding a Treaty at this time with the western Indians as well as the Indians within their own territory; all which he most faithfully promised to do, adding that he wou'd punctually inform me of the whole of their proceedings.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your Excellency's most obedient & hble servt

Richd Butler

His Excellency the President of Congreſs

In conſequence of a resolution of Congreſs of the 24th of May last respecting Capt. OBeel and his party, referred to the Commiſsioners of Indian affairs to take order thereon, General Butler this morning delivered to Capt. OBeel & his party the following Speech:

Brother. The Commiſsioners for holding treaties with the Indians have it in command from Congreſs to aſsure you that Congreſs are deliberating on meaſures to continue the correspondences between the United States and the Indian nations, and that nothing shall be wanting on their part to cultivate friendship and a good understanding with them. The Commiſsioners therefore recommend to Capt. OBeel and his people to return to their people, and aſsure them of the good intentions of Congreſs towards them, and to adviſe the Six-Nations and all other Indians within the United States with whom they have an intercourſe, to remain peaceable and continue in friendship with the United States, they being the only people who can give them protection and supply their wants. They also recommend to the Six nations to ſend to the west and withdraw from the Shawanoes such of their people as reside among them, and are frequently doing mischief, and to advise the Wabach and all other Indians hostilely disposed to desist from any acts of hostility, lest they draw down the resentment of the United States upon themselves & their Children. This will be a convincing Proof of the determination of the Six nations to keep peace and prevent those disorderly persons from injuring the Inhabitants of the Frontier.

Brother We wish you & your people safe home & give you our best wishes. (Signed) R Butler Commr.

attested by
A Campbell Secy

To which speech O'Bail replied

Brother I believe that Congress now have done every thing which I wished to be done. It only remains with the six nations to take their speeches and spread them thro' the nations who have not yet hearkened to their voice.

Brother I hope that you will be at Fort Pitt when return from the Westward, that I may communicate to you as well the sentiments of the nations residing in that quarter, as those of the Six nations. For my part, I will ~~go~~ send this man (pointing to one of his people) to the Shawanoese, and on his return will make every communication to you at Fort Pitt myself.

When I return to the Six nations, there will be a great Council, and whatever may be done at it, you shall know. Nothing shall be kept from you. I wish to set the hearts of the Six nations at ease before I go to the other nations, for I shall exert myself to make things straight and right among all the Indians. I have now nothing more to say but to thank the great Spirit, for permitting us to speak together this day, on which we are to part."

—After having delivered the aforegoing speech, he said that he had one more request to make, which was that Congress, ~~that~~ would attend to the speech which he made to them in their own room, begging that General Butler might be the person who should put the Chunks together and kindle the Council fire at Fort Pitt."

Delivered to General Butler June 1st 1786

A Campbell Secy
Commissrs Indn Affairs

New York 2d June 1786

N York June 2d 1786 —

In consequence of a resolution of Congress of the 24th day of May ~~[illegible]~~ respecting Capt. Bell & his party, & directing the Commiss.rs of Indian affairs to take order thereon — General Butler this morning made a speech to Capt. Bell which is as follows. (the speech to be inserted) —

To which he made the following answer.

Brother. I believe that Congress now have done every thing which I wished to be done. It only remains with the Six nations to take their speeches and spread them thro' the nations who have not yet hearkened to your voice.

Brother I hope that you will be at Fort Pitt when I return from the westward — That I may communicate to you as well the sentiments of those ~~six~~ nations, residing in that quarter, as the sentiments of the Six nations. For my part I will ~~go~~ send this man (pointing to one of his people) to the Shawanoes, and will on his return ~~[illegible]~~ make my communications to you at Fort Pitt myself. When I return to the Six nations there will be a great Council, and whatever is done at it you shall know. No thing shall be kept from you. I wish to set the hearts of the Six nations at ease while I go to the other nations — for I shall exert myself to make every thing right. I have nothing to say more but to thank the great Spirit for permitting us to speak together this day on which we are to part —

~~Delivered June 1st to General Butler~~

after having made the aforegoing speech he ſaid that he had one more request to make of Congreſs which was, that they wou'd attend to what he had ſaid in their room, requesting General Butler shou'd be the person who shoud put the chunks together at Fort Pitt

A.

Dd. June 1st to General Butler

Expenditures for Indian Affairs
from 1st July to 30th September 1786

1786				Dollars	90
July	10	To the Honble Samuel H. Parsons Commissioner for Indian Affairs for his pay from 1st October to 31st December 1785	598. „		
		Ditto, for his pay from 1st January to 28th June 1786	334.67	932.67	
	12	Joseph Corre, being for the Expences of Capt. O'Beel (the Seneca Chief) and his Associates, from 23d March to 24th May 1786	756.81		
		Ditto, being for the Board of Capt. O'Beel and his Associates from 25th May to 1st June 1786	84.56	841.37	
	„	James O'Hara, being a balance due him on Account of Rations and Supplies for the Indian Treaties	1.554.30		
	„	Ditto, being a balance due him for transportation of Goods and incidental charges for the same on account of the Indian Treaties	1.714.43	3.268.73	
„	27	Genl. Knox, Secretary at War, to enable him to purchase Goods for Scotosh, an Indian Chief of the Wyandot Nation, and to defray his Expences to his own Country, agreeably to Act of Congress of the 24th instant		150. „	

	31	Honble. Richard Butler Esqr. Commissioner for Indian Treaties, being for balance of his Salary from 13th March 1784 to 31st July 1786	2,250.6
August	2	Alexander Campbell, Secretary to the Commissioners for Indian Treaties, being for balance of Pay due to him	677.72
		John Boggs, being for a balance of Pay due to him, as Chief Messenger to the Indian Nations	786. "
		Nathaniel Smith, being for the balance of pay due to him as Storekeeper to the Indian Commissioners	688.81
		Samuel Montgomery, being for the balance of pay due him as Messenger to the Indian Nations	644.26
		James Rankin, being for the balance of pay due him as Messenger to ditto	373.40
		James O'Hara, Assignee of Alexander Campbell, Secretary to the Commissioners for Indian Affairs, being for said Campbell's Salary from 21st June to 13th July 1786	69. "
	25	John Stagg, Assignee of Joseph Corre, being for the Board &c. of Sotosh (a Wyandot Chief & his Companions) from 11th to 27th July 1786	35.15

Expenditures for Indian Affairs Continued

		Dollars
	Brought on	10,968
Aug 18.	To David Elliott being for his pay as Messenger to the Indian Nations	740
	Dollars	11,708

Joseph Nourse Register

Expenditures for Indian
Affairs
from 1st July to 30th September 1786
No. 6
Dollars, 11,708.89

The Committee consisting of to whom were referred the treaties with the western & southern Indians and the dispatches accompanying them beg leave to report in part—

Whereas the objects of the commissions which the U.S. in Congress assembled issued on the seventeenth day of May and on the twenty second day of September in the year of our Lord 1785 are in part accomplish'd by the treaties of peace concluded with the six nations at fort ~~Stanwix~~ Schuyler ~~on~~ 22 Oct. 1784 ~~and with the western Indians~~ with the Wyandot, Delaware, Chippawa & Ottawa Indians at fort McIntosh on the 21 Jany 1785 ~~at~~ on with the Shawanese at the mouth of the great Miami 31 Jany 1786

and with the Cherokees at Hopewell on the Keowee on the 28 Novr 1785

with the Choctaws at Hopewell on the Keowee on 3 Jany 1786 and

with the Chickasaws at Hopewell on the Keowee on the 10th Jany 1786

and whereas it is unnecessary to continue the said commissions longer in force, as the future connection and intercourse with the several Indian nations may, at a less expence, be maintain'd by a proper organization of the Indian department—

therefore resolved.

That the several commissions of the 17th May and 22 Sep. 1785 ~~granted for the purpose of treating with the Indians in the northern middle & southern Depart~~ ~~and~~ be and they are hereby revoked

granted for the purpose of treating with the Indians in the North in the northern middle & southern Departments

Report - Mr Monroe
Mr Johnson
Mr King -
Mr Kean
Mr Pinckney - on
treaties with Southern Indians.

read 27 May 1786

June 1. 1786
Postponed till
Tuesday next

passed July 12. 1786

Provided

Be it Ordained that when it shall appear necessary to hold a treaty or treaties with any Nation, town, or tribe of Indians within the boundary or limits of ~~either~~ any of the States. A communication shall in the first instance be made to the Legislature or Executive of the State within whose limits such Indians are, notifying the time, place, and object of such treaty, and the said Superintendent shall ~~have~~ have full power to negociate and treat with said Indians on all matters relative to peace and war agreeable to such instructions as he may receive.

Provided also that the Legislative right of any State is not infringed or violated, and ~~provided also~~ that on all matters respecting the regulation of trade or internal policy in which the Retained Sovereignty, Jurisdiction, or legislative right is concerned, the Superintendent shall advise, consult with, and obtain the approbation of such State or some person or persons duly authorised on the part of said State to Assent thereto, before any treaty or act ~~[illegible]~~ touching the premisses shall be considered as valid

No. Ten
Mr. W. Powell
20 July 96
respecting articles to be
[illegible]
[illegible]

~~New York [illegible]~~ 1786

Gentlemen

The Act of Congress of the 9th August last ~~so far as it respects me~~ directs that ~~from the 15th of March 1784~~ the Commissr for Indian affairs in the N. D. "I should "be allowed at the rate of four dollars "per day for every day ~~I was~~ they were actually "employed" in the business ~~[illegible]~~ ~~of the~~ ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ is most probable that for the other Gentlemen ~~my~~ colleagues ~~to ascertain~~ ~~[illegible]~~ may ascertain with ~~[illegible]~~ precision the number of days they each actually ~~[illegible]~~ as they only attended ~~when the~~ when Congress ordered a Special treaty ~~to be held~~ ~~when my~~ written request when matters of ~~more~~ greater moment than ~~[illegible]~~ deemed ~~[illegible]~~ indispensable solely to decide ~~[illegible]~~, ~~[illegible]~~ as to Dow who ~~frequently~~ occasionally attended on ~~[illegible]~~ the pages with ~~[illegible]~~ and some times in my absence held meetings with the Indians by me ~~requesting~~ ~~[illegible]~~, it is totally impossible for me to form any account of the number ~~of days~~ he was

and that Mr Hoffman actually employed his assistance on the order of the [illegible] respectively

SCHUYLER PAPERS.

with ~~[illegible]~~ and receiving ~~[illegible]~~ and declare it upon ~~[illegible]~~ on oath ~~[illegible]~~ to the truth of the

actually Employed, as I kept no account of them

The Comptroller is not here and If he was I conceive he could not adjust my account under the Act of Congress unless I could specify the number of days I was Employed. This induces me to State ~~before~~ my Situation from the Circuit Mention ~~in the act~~ ~~for your~~ decision on the subject ~~If you do not grant any~~ If not to ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ this application before the present Congress.

From April 1779 ~~I had frequent~~ Meetings with different bodies of Indians and until the latter end of February 1780 had more or less of ~~them~~ almost ~~continually~~ about ~~me on some~~ occasion ~~or other~~

In the latter end of February 1780 or beginning of March I took a seat in Congress, and remained either with Congress or as a member of a Committee with the Army until August during that period I received ~~[illegible]~~ Sundry Letters of the Agent and others relative to the Indians.

~~[illegible]~~ About the first August I was under the necessity of repairing to Schenectady

~~[illegible]~~ altho I think I may fairly charge for

~~[illegible]~~ half or nearly ~~half that~~ time of the first period

which from 19th Apl 1779 to 1 March 1780

which amounts to 315 ~~days is half is~~ — 157 1/2 days

and from 1 March 1780 to 1 Aug: following ~~[illegible]~~ — 10 days

from 1st August 1780 to ~~middle of~~ Nov ~~[illegible]~~ 1783 is 1018 days deducting thereout the time I was in the Legislature and at Philadelphia amounting to 215 days remains ~~[illegible] days~~

and I think I may consider half that time [illegible] — 401 1/2 days

from May 15 1783 to March 7 1784 — I may have been actually employed about — 30

which would make a total of — 599 days

That altho I think the ~~charge~~ above number of ~~them~~ days would not exceed the time I have been actually employed, yet I cannot possibly declare either on honor or on oath that they ~~exceed~~ exceed or ~~[illegible]~~ fall short of the true time

To obviate this embarrassment I am most willing to declare on oath or on honor, that I would not endure the mere Mechanical labour and afford the attention alone which I time appropriated to the Indian ~~Accounts~~

~~from during~~ ~~[illegible] [illegible] I was employed~~

~~during [illegible] half of the period~~

~~[illegible] [illegible]~~ from the period stated by

Compts to May or June 1783 for a less

sum than £200 currency a year

~~[illegible]~~ ~~suffering~~ that time & labour were

only in the question, but those that

then would not induce me to the sacrifices

~~expences~~ which ~~[illegible]~~ must necessarily be made

by every person who has the management

and care of a public & apparently troublesome

business arising of a variety of ~~[illegible]~~ incidental Expences

~~of which no account can be readily~~ taken

but these sacrifices

I ~~to~~ the question on the present occasion

they were for my country. I claim nothing

for ~~[illegible]~~

~~[illegible]~~ 4

525 4

210 0 4

£872.6

Between the 19th Ap: 1779 and 8th June 1783

there are ——————— 1502 days

Deduct as above ——————— 432

1070

20

# 1090

~~Half~~

~~Of this~~ number of days

I can safely declare on oath that

~~being~~

~~I have been actually employed~~

I sincerely believe that I have been actually employed one half of the above number days — meaning by actually employed days — in writing letters to [illegible] my colleagues to the Agents, to the british officers on the subject of the department, in meetings at treaties ~~with the Indians~~, in meetings with Individuals, in attending on ~~their~~ troublesome visits — in sending Indians with papers sent me by Congress to be privately distributed in Canada in keeping up a correspondence in Canada with friends there by means of Indians who were employed to convey the dispatches sending parties of Indians to watch the Enemy's motions & in providing for their subsistence and I can not hold ~~[illegible]~~ oath — that I would not ~~state~~ that the time expended labour & oftener and

# between June 1783 & 1784 I may have been employed in the aggregate about 20 days.

exposed myself and family to the indispensable

circumstance of having my house so

frequently crowded with Indians as

It has been in the period ~~above~~ stated

If [illegible] merely by [illegible]

Indians for Four hundred pounds a Year

only

Having thus stated what occurs I

can make out and [illegible] necessary

[illegible] to Me. I must submit

the Decision

The Act of Congress of directs that
the Commissioners of Indian affairs shall
be paid at the rate of four Dollars per day
for the time they were actually employed
~~Such of the~~ Gentlemen who lived at a distance
from Albany may most probably to ~~ascertain~~
be able to ascertain the time they were employed
with precision, as they attended only on occasions
when a treaty was to be held by the aforesaid order
of Congress, but as I was obliged to attend the
business on every occasion which presented
It will be impossible for me ascertain the time
in any other mode than the following viz
the latter end of February 1780
from April 19th 1779 to ~~the close of that year~~
I had frequent meetings with the Indians
In the latter end of February 1780 I repaired to
Congress and in April following attended the
army as one of the Committee of Congress
on this Service. I gave directions ~~at~~
occasionally to the Agent Oliver ~~about~~
the 2d of August ~~1780~~ under the necessity
of repairing to Albany & thence to Schenectady
to meet ~~with~~ the ~~Indians~~ during the remainder
of that year and the succeeding ones of 1781 & 1782
1783 ~~about the end of~~ April 1783 I had

to ~~attend~~ Oneidas & Tuscaroras ~~[illegible]~~
who were come down to Schenectady
where they remained until May 1779

and game are more humble and required
more of my attention than can be easily
conceived by those who ~~do not know~~ are
unacquainted with the timber & importunately
of Indians—from May 1779 ~~to Aug 1780~~
~~I had little~~ when they returned to Butler County
~~[illegible]~~ them
I had ~~yet~~ much

to attend the Oneidas & Tuscaroras who had ~~been expelled~~ fled for Shelter to Schenectady where they remained about sixteen miles from Albany. ~~from that~~ the middle of may or of June ~~time~~ until ~~may~~ 1783 (except when the Legislature of the State did not sit at Albany and that I attended as a member) Scarcely a day passed ~~but~~ in which I had not more or less of the Indians in my house on some business or other, they sending then ~~them~~ so near home as Schenectady —

m August
1780 until
y or June
1783

from may 1783 to March 1784 when other Commissioners were appointed — my Intercourse with the Indians was not ~~fre~~ frequent.

22
15
37

From Sept. 1st 1780 to the 27th of that month I attended a session of the legislature at Poughkeepsie also from February 7th to April 15th 1782 and from about the 20th January 1783 to the latter end of March 1783 — the other sessions were either held at Albany or I did not attend — from the 20th Nov: 1782 I left Albany for Philadelphia and did not return until the 15th Janry 1783

31
30
31
30
31
153

21
31
15
67

10
36
15
6

~~[illegible]~~21
11
31

365
365
365
365
42
1502 days

10
28
31
69

New York October 5th 1786

Gentlemen

The Act of Congress of the 9th August last directs that the commissioners for indian affairs in the Northern department, should be allowed, four dollars per day, for every day, they were actually employed in the business, And that the time actually employed be ascertained on the oath of the parties respectively.—

Altho it is most probable that the other Gentlemen my colleagues may ascertain with precission the number of days they were each actually employed, as they only attended when Congress ordered a Special treaty to be held, or when my written request when matters of greater moment occurred than I deemed myself Justifiable solely to decide upon, except as to Mr. Dow who occasionally attended on verbal messages sent by me, and who sometimes in my absence held meetings with the Indians— Yet it is totally impossible for me to make any account of the number of days I was actually employed with such precission as to declare on oath to the truth of the Account; as I kept no Account of them,— not having it in contemplation that any compensation (since I resigned my Military command) would have been made in the manner directed by the ~~Resolve~~ of Congress. And as the Comptroller certainly cannot adjust my account unless I attest as directed in the act I am induced to state circumstances which may be necessary to enable the

Treasury board to give afford their decision on the subject if they can officially ~~afford~~ afford it. If not, to intreat them to lay this letter before the Honorable Congress.

~~From the time of my appointment which was early in 1775. the great burthen of the business throughout the war has rested solely on me as the other gentlemen of the Department resided at too great a distance either to take a share in the business or be consulted other than upon some few extraordinary cases. but as an act of Congress was in force which prevented any one from receiving ~~com~~ compensation for more than one office whatever might be the number he held, he did not conceive myself intitled to any as a commissioner for indian affairs until after a resignation of my military command to wit on the 19th april 1779. in that year I found the business not only exceedingly troublesome but attended with considerable expence from the number of Indians who repeatedly resorted to my house whether I was at albany or Saratoga and signified my wish to Congress to resign the employment but Congress continued to direct their orders relative to this department to me, and as I could not reconcile it to my feelings to abandon a department in which it was probable I might be of service, I therefore continued in this very disagreeable business.~~

As I had ~~found~~ the business of attending to the Indians exceedingly irksome & disagreeable, and in some degree expensive to me I signified, to Congress my wish to resign the employment ~~It was [illegible]~~

~~[illegible]~~, no notice was taken of the ~~and the~~ in matters respecting that department were as heretofore directed home and I continued to superintend it until March 1784 — when a new arrangement was made.—

during the whole of the Year 1779 and until the latter end of February 1780 I had ~~very~~ frequent meetings with the Indians, ~~and~~ and almost constant visits from more or less of them

In the latter end of February 1780 I repaired to Philadelphia at the request of Congress, and took my seat as a member and remained either there or with the army as one of a Committee of Congress, until the first or second of August during this period I continued to receive the communications of the Agents gave answers and directions for his conduct. about the first or second of August I was obliged to leave the Committee then at Peeks Kill and repair to Schenectady to take measures for accommodating the Oneida & Tuscarora nations who had been obliged to fly from their country and were arrived at Schenectady a place sixteen miles from Albany, ~~where~~ they remained until June 1783 — and in all that last mentioned period except when I was not at Albany, I was ~~[illegible]~~ obliged almost constantly ~~[illegible] with~~ to attend to their visits either

on real ~~[illegible]~~ or feigned business ~~or complimentary~~
~~visits of which they are exceedingly fond~~
from June 1783 to March 1786 I had little
Intercourse with them other than by Letters
& Messages

Between the 19th Apl: 1779 and June 1783
I was absent from Albany & Saratoga as follows
from ~~[illegible]~~ about the 9th October to the
15th November with the Commander in chief
at West Point - - - - - - - - - - - - 37 days
From 15th November I repaired to Congress
and returned to Albany about
the 12th December - - - - - - 27 days
About the first of March 1780 I left
Albany and remained with Congress
or the Army until the first of Aug:
following - - - - - - - - 153 days
from the 4th Sept: 1780 to the 27 thereof
I attended the legislature of the state
at Poughkeepsie - - - - - - 23 days
from the 7th Febr: 1782 to the 15 of April
attended the Legislature at Poughkeepsie — 67 days
from the 20th Nov: 1782 I left Albany for
Philadelphia and did not return
until about the 15 Jany following - - 56 days
from the 20th January 1783 to the 1 Apl: following
attended the legislature at Kingston — 69 days
432 days

Indian Affairs

1777 - 1784

[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
Decbr 1788

Probably written
by a member of
the State Legislature
asking relative to
[illegible]
[illegible] Indians
[illegible] them
[illegible]

(Copy)

New York Octr. 5th 1786.

Sir

Previous to the departure of the Corn-planter a chief of the Six nations from this City last June, I directed him to communicate every matter which he might learn reſpecting the conduct of the British in a treaty then said to be holding with the Indians at Niagara, with all other useful information to Colonel William Butler at Fort Pitt, in caſe I ſhould not be there in time, and I requested Colo. Butler to receive and transmit it to me. I therefore agreeable to an ordinance of Congreſs of the 7th August 1786 for the regulation of Indian affairs which directs the communications of that department to be made to Congreſs through the Secretary at War, do myself the honor to inclose a ſpeech delivered by the Corn-planter the 11th of Septr. at Fort Pitt to Colonel Butler and request you will be pleased to lay the same before Congreſs for their information as I am of opinion it may be depended on.

I have the honor to be with
Great respect, Sir
Your Most Humble Servt.
Richard Butler

Honble.
Major General Knox
Secy. at War.

War Office October 6th 1786

Sir,

In the absence of the Secretary at War I have the honor to transmit to your Excellency, for the information of Congreſs, copy of a letter receiv'd this day from General Richard Butler Superintendant of indian affairs for the northern and middle departments, accompanying a letter from Colonel William Butler to him, containing a narrative of the Cornplanter's transactions in the indian country since he left this city, copy of which is herewith transmitted and also two strings of white wampum

I have the honor to be
With the highest respect
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient
Humble Servant
Robert Pemberton
Clerk in the War Office

His Excellency
The President
of Congreſs

/Copy/

Pittsburgh 11th September 1786

This day the Cornplanter arrived from Venango and waited on Colonel Butler who addreſs'd him as follows

Brother

I yesterday receiv'd a letter from my brother General Butler wherein he directs me to inform you that he is appointed by Congreſs Superintendant of indian affairs to the Northern and middle departments. He has also desired me to furniſh you and any of your people (who may come on public buſineſs) with provisions, he has likewise instructed me to enquire of you and ſend him all the news you have heard since you left New York and to tell you the regard he has for you as a good man, that he wishes you not to go far from here until he comes up which will be soon and that the Grand Congreſs have a high opinion of your sincerity and goodneſs

Cornplanter

Brother

I am happy to meet you here at your own council fire agreeable to appointment

I am happy to hear that General Butler is appointed superintendant of Indian affairs: as it was my desire it should be ſo. My chief buſineſs at this place is to see, or hear from General Butler and to inform him what I have saw and heard since I left him. On my return to the lakes, I found the six nations Shawanoes, Wyandots Delawares Chippeways Wiaghtonaes Kickapoos and Cherokees with Captain Brant who is lately from England: all aſsembled at Buffaloe Creek and lighting a council fire. Shortly after my arrival I sent for the commanding officer at Niagara to come and hear what I had to say, but he refused: the whole council of indians then sent insisting on his coming or sending his agent, but he returned them for answer he would not go to hear them they were nothing but a set of Bostonians were it an indian council he would attend. I then proceeded to inform the different nations of every thing Congreſs had committed to my charge: the whole of the six nations were well pleased with the speeches I delivered from Congreſs, the Chippeways and Wiandots were alſo ſatisfied and said they would be ruled by their

Brothers the six nations. The Shawanoes and Cherokees said they looked to their Brothers the six nations to lay off land for them and not the white people on which the counsellors of the six nations made answer.

Brothers, We frequently hear of your bad conduct to our brethren the Americans and as you spake for the indians further toward the sunset we have to tell you they as well as you still keep killing robbing and stealing horses. Let us ask you Brothers have you not taken hold of the offers made by the Thirteen Fires and have not you entered into treaties of peace with them, as we your brothers have done, why then do you break those promises or seek of us to lay off land for you.

The six principal chiefs then told the Shawanoes they would go on board a veſsel ship and croſs the lake to the council fire of the Shawanoes and see if they could not make them peaceable there. I then put these six chiefs in poſseſsion of all the speeches Congreſs had delivered me, and then parted, they determined to go to the Shawanoe towns and I for Pittsburgh but unfortunately too sick at French Creek where I lay a long time a was overtaken by an expreſs sent by the Chiefs to inform me that the commanding officer had stop them from going to the Shawanoe towns: telling them that Sir John Johnson was coming to deli them a speech and would be there in a few day that he had a large quantity of goods for to clothe them, that he wanted to see and clothe all the young warriors who had ſerved with him, as perh it would be the last time he would ever have it in his power.

The Cornplanter then delivered two white Strings desiring that his thanks might be retu to Congreſs for their goodneſs in appointing a Superintendant, and especially as they had app the person he so much wished.

B. Captain Brant told the indians he ha gone to England on purpose to see the King and kn if he had sold or given the Americans as much la as they claimed, that the King told him he had made peace with the Americans and that the middle of the waters in the lakes was the line betw him and them, and that his people and the

Americans were both at liberty to trade up and down that water. Captain Brant asked the King if he would aſsist him to drive the Americans off them lands provided he would go to war. The King told him, he had lately made a peace and could not break it

This to the best of my knowledge is verbatim and think the Cornplanter a man worthy of notice

(signed) William Butler

To

General Richard Butler

Letter 6 Octr 1786
War Office
with letter 5 Oct from
R Butler Supt I. Aff. N Dist.
read 9. Oct. 1786

Brothers the Wyndotts

Since we have now brightened your Council fire we hope you will Act Accordingly, where business is to be transacted at it, we Shall Attend, if a fire is lighted on another place, for that Business, we ought all to Attend it Also, we Once more encourage you to be diligent on this point.—

Strings—

We likewise desired the Wyndotts and Dellawares to look out for a place for the Shawanese more to the Westward than where they were formerly where they Might Settle A fresh..—

The Hurons Answers.—

Brothers the five Nations

We have heard you deliver the Sentiments of your War Chiefs and Sachems at this Council fire place with other 3 Nations Attending, we Understand your meanings very fully and now return you thanks for your good Speeches, by which you renew every thing agreed upon at our Council at Sandusky, we find all your Sentiments very Just and reasonable and that they tend very much to the Interest and Wellfare of the Indians in general for which reason we again thank you— I hope that at this present time every thing will be accomplished that has been intended, every thing would have remained in perfect Tranquility long before now, but it was your Faults, Because When you took the Hatchet out of our Hands of the Warriors, you did not bury it, but only Set it on One Side, we then covered it, but Nevertheleſs the foolish young men took it up Again, it is owing to that Neglect that we are now involved in the present troubles. —

Bunch of black Strings

Brothers. —

We have according to your desire fix'd both Shawanese and Delawares at the Glaize, so that you See we Comply'd with all your requests. —

Bunch black Strings

Brothers. — We have likewise paid Attention to the fire place which you recommended us to keep under our own Roofs, we do now fix it at Sindathons Village near the Mouth of the River Detroit, —

Black Belt

The Dellawares Answer —

Uncles the Five Nations. —

We thank you for the Speeches of your War Chiefs and Sachems, we comprehend them clearly And find that they are very much adapted to the Interests of the Indians in general and think it very reasonable that every Sentence of them Should be adhered to, we are Exceeding happy that your Ideas are so well founded and give you hearty thanks, —

Strings Wampum

Nephews the Delawares, —

We clearly understand your Answers and thank you for your immediate reply which you have given to the whole — We are happy that you our Nephews are so well pleased and that you think, what we have advanced is for the interest of us all —

Brothers the Wyndotts

We are Sorry that we are obliged to Tell you in this pointed manner, that we are not Satisfy'd with your Answers, you Seem not to make that Ample reply that you might make, for there certainly must be more upon your Minds than what you have let out, we the five Nations are come this great distance to make our proposals and deliver our Sentiments, which we have thought for the best, & we Should be sorry that any of our Brothers here present Should want So much generosity as not to explain themselves fully and give their Opinions on what we have Said, we must insist upon it that you the Wyndotts will be more candid upon this

Occasion and let us know you real Sentiments. — If you have any better proposals, or Objections to make we will be glad to hear them — you are the oldest Nation in this Quarter and you must be Sensible that the Eyes of all the other Nations are upon you, It cannot be otherwise than that your minds must be heavy laden with serious thoughts, it is Surely expected, and you cannot be excused — from Speaking more fully on the present very interesting Occasion, How is it possible you can have so little to Say on a Subject of Such great importance to us all. —

A Black and White Belt

The Wyandotts Answer

Brothers the five Nations,

You were very right when you told us that we had not Answer'd you fully, it is true we did not, and the reason is there were only four Nations here present. I am Determined however now to tell you more than I did before — In the first place let us propose an exchange of prisoners, and let the Shawanese, collect the Whites Amongst them in order to Exchange for the prisoners which Colo. Logan took from them lately — In the next place we have now three Scouting parties out to watch the Motions of the Americans if I find they mean to pass us, we intend to

Step on One Side — If they intend to get to Detroit, we do not know what May happen then if they mean to fall upon us, then I do not know how the Warriors will Act, —

You have now brighten'd our fire, and we Shall keep it so, it burns quite fresh, and the Smoak of it reaches the Skies, therefore this fall we will collect all the Nations round about and determine on Something good or bad, and then we Expect you Will give your Attendance Also, —

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who can be relyed on to the falls of the Ohio an
appoint a day on which they will bring the prisoners on their Hands, I will Exchange them and expect they will be well treated, if not you may be Assured that those I have in my possession will meet with Similar treatment and be conveyed to a part of the Country where they cannot be retaken or Redeemed, without giving a proportionable Number of our people, and unless you comply with these terms you may soon expect another Army in your Country in order to Destroy every Town on this Side the Lakes. Which I think it would be much to our Advantage to do. —

Sign'd Benjamin Logan
Commandant

I would have waited
Longer but had no Certainty
of your Comeing —

A Speech of the Five Nations to the Western Indians Novr., 1786.

Bretheren and Nephews

You well remember that early last Spring we lighted a Council fire at Buffaloe Creek, expecting that all our Western Brethren from every quarter would be present, but when we began to Assemble at it, we found many of you Absent. —

The Business that we had the before us, was a matter of such high importance to all of us of the Same Colour, that we thought it imprudent and too presumtuous to go on with it, whilst one Single Representative Should be Absent. —

The Business concerned every Indian Nations welfare, of our general Confederacy. —

Bretheren, As we were much Disappointed in not having a full Council at that time, we Sent you a Message, that with your concurrence we would light Another fire at Wakitamiky Village (Being most centrical) which met with the Late unhappy disaster. — Notwithstanding we have been so often disappointed from different circumstances we are Still determined to deliver to you, the Opinions of the five Nations, on the present critical Situation of Affairs betwixt the Americans and the Indians. —

Bretheren and Nephews. —

We beg of you to Listen with particular Attention to what we are now going to advance. — I am Sorry to observe that we have all acted imprudently Since the peace was made with the Americans; in this observation we mean not to exculpate Any one in particular, it alludes to us all. — We mean not however to recapitulate our Several Misconducts, but now wish to adopt Such Measures for our future welfare as will Seem

Most prudent to us all.

Brothers and Nephews.

When the English desired us to be quiet, we had a Council at Sandusky at which it was agreed, that in Matters of general concern to the Indians, we were to be of one mind, and one Council, that the different roads of our Meſsengers, Should be kept Open, so that frequent intercourse might be Carried on between us, that whatever place was pitch'd upon for the Council fire, the readiest Attendance might be given by us all.

You may likewise remember that at that time an invitation was expected from the Americans in which case it was agreed that our whole Confederacy Should attend and that whatever we Should agree to with them Should be permanent,

Some time after this, the expected invitation came to our quarter, and we immediately let you Know, and only Some of your Nations came, this created much confusion amongst the five Nations, Some of whom went to the Americans Council — The — Americans very readily took the advantage of this and Some other Small Councils, and began to draw lines upon, and Set Boundaries in the Countries belonging to the different Indian Nations,

Some of the young warriors being dissatisfied with this was the first cause of fresh ruptures with the Americans

We now mean to communicate to you our Sentiments as we mentioned before, by which we will endeavour to inform You of the only expedient that we could devise for the Wellfare of the Indians in general, our grand Confederacy — when you have clearly understood what we intend to propose, we Shall then collect our Several Opinions, and adopt the easiest and most reasonable mode of Settling our present Discontentment with the Americans. — War Chiefs Here is our belt to confirm our words. —

A Large Belt

Brothers and Nephew's

We take this Belt to renew the Confederacy formed at Sandusky between all the Indian Nations in general, and we hope that every Nation in this particular will follow our example — let us therefore firmly adhere to our former resolutions on this head, and let no one thing whatever cause us to deviate from Unanimity in the management of those Affairs, in which our general interests and wellfare are concern'd — In which from Unanimity I hope it is obvious to us all, depends our future Wellfare and happiness. —

Bretheren and Nephew's Pay particular Attention,

By this Belt, we now reestablish the Great Council fire of our Confederacy that was formed at Sandusky, let us by the Virtue of this emblem be of one mind, let this create in us a fresh Idea, that when Any thing of importance requires our exertions that they may be general and united;- let all our Actions be attended with that degree of prudence, as to cause no remorse, or penitence, and these will never follow, if we abide by that uniformity of Conduct, which we all agreed to at our first Confederate — Council fire, and provided no future Seperate — Councils tend to disunite us.

A large black Belt, with human figures represented hand in hand and a heart.

Bretheren and Nephews

We the War Chiefs of the five Nations, have Opened to you our real Sentiments from the Bottoms of our hearts, the Words which we are now going to Deliver to you are the Words of our Sachems.

Sachems of our Confederacy.

You have heard the Sentiments of our principal War Chiefs, we have considired of them, and mean by this Belt to convince you, that we are of their opinion and mean to confirm what they have Said by this emblem, we hope that you will all Assuredly agree with us in those Sentiments — which tend so much to the advancement of our general interests, & hope that Nothing will Lead you astray from that path of unanimity, -

Which we so Strongly recommend. —

A large Belt, a fathom in Length
Human Figures hand in hand, —
A Heart. —

Bretheren and Nephew's

These are the Sentiments of the War Chiefs and Sachems of the five Nation, by this Belt we unite all and bind all, particularly to the Southward leaving only a Small opening to the Westward for those Nations of our own Colour, who will in time become a further acquisition to our Confederacy, and we earnestly request that no Nation will Attempt to go out of this Circle, as the Opening is only intended, to fill up the Vacancy, and not to lessen, what is already taken in. —

A large white Belt a fathom Long, at
Each extremity a human hand in a
position for Grasping. —

Bretheren and Nephew's

We mean now to inform you of our intentions in Case of Necessity, we mean to cross at Fort Erie Some of us are now in readiness on that Side. —

A Belt —

We mean that all the belts we have now Spoke upon Shall proceed from this Council fire to the different Nations and return to the Shawanese as they live the most centrical. —

Bretheren and Nephew's. —

We have now told you every thing, that we think Neceſsary in the present Situation of Affairs, for our interests we are certain that every Nation will be convinced that what we have advanced is true. — Take but a Cursory view of that large tract of Country, between our present habitations and the Salt water, inhabited by the Christians; and consider the reason why it is not Still Inhabited by our own Colour — It is certain that before Christian Nations Visited this Continent, we were the Sole Lords of the Soil! We were the Lords of the Soil, the great Spirit placed us there! and what is the reason, why we are not Still in poſseſsion of our forefathers birth Rights? You may Safely Say because they wanted that Unanimity which we now So Strongly and Repeatedly recommend to you. — Our Forefathers cannot however be so much blamed, as their Succeſsors their days were not so much exemplified as our own, they viewed their first Visitors with that degree of awe and Veneration that was ingidnant of the Natives of such free air as they then Breathed. You are and we all were convinced that we were treating with beings like our Selves and who through the unanimity they were prudent enough to preserve, had so much the Superiority — and — Consequently none of the divided Efforts of our — Ancestors to oppose them, had any Effect. Therefore let us profit by these things and be unanimous, let us have a Just sense of our own Value and if After that the Great Spirit, wills, that other Colours Should Subdue us, let it be so, we then Cannot reproach our selves for Misconduct — We hope Bretheren and Nephews that you will not misunderstand the meaning of our Speeches, we wish you would understand, unanimity in our Councils on Matters that concern us all, if we make a War with any Nation, let it result from the Great Council fire, if we make peace, let it also proceed from our unanimous Councils. But whilst we remain disunited, every inconvenience Attend us, The Interests of Any One Nation Should be the Interests of us all, the Welfare of the one Should be the Wellfare of all the others. —

A String Black Wampum

Brothers the Wyndotts —

You are the ablest bretheren we have in this Quarter, but we have never yet been able rightly to Distinguish your fire place, When ever we the five Nations came to you on private Busineſs, You introduced us to the English fire when you Should have had one under your own roofs, we therefore now brighten your fire that we may See it at a distance if you look upon yourselves as a free people you Should keep up a fire of your own. —

A Black Belt

At our arrival at the Shawanese Towns, we went through the usual Ceremonies &ca. and finding a number of the tribes dispersed, at a distance and others not expected in less than ten days; we agreed to go a hunting towards the Ohio during that time — When unfortunately the Americans fell upon Wakitamiky village by surprize, killing some of the Chiefs and Young men, and taking off some — women, and children Prisoners — It was owing to this unlucky event that our Council fire was destroyed. upon this we Judged it necessary to go to the Delaware Village to hold a Council there. On the 18th day of last month we did light the Council fire at that Village with a black belt, at this Council were present four different Nations besides us the five Nations —

The five Nations and Delawares, condoled with the Shawanese and Ottawas on their late misfortunes with different sorts of Belts and Strings of Wampum — After these matters were over we proceeded as follows —

Continued

Brethren U. States

You will remember that in the last Spring we lighted a Council fire at Buffaloe Creek, expecting that all our western Brethren from every quarter would be present, but when we began to assemble at it, we found many of you absent —

The Business that we had then before us, was a matter of such high importance to all of us of the Same Colour, that we thought it imprudent and too presumptuous to go on with it, whilst one Single Representative should be Absent — The business concerned every Indian Nations wellfare, & our general Confederacy —

Brethren, as we were much disappointed in not having a full Council at that time, we sent you a message, that with your concurrence we would light Another fire at Wakitamiky village (being most central) which met with the late unhappy disaster — Notwithstanding we have been so Often Disappointed from different circumstances, we are still determined to deliver to you, the Opinions of the Five Nations, on the present critical situation of Affairs between the Americans and the Indians -

Brethren & Nephews

We beg of you to listen with particular attention to what we are now going to advance - I am sorry to observe that we have all acted ~~more~~ imprudently, since the Peace was made with the Americans, in this observation we mean not to exculpate any one in particular, it alludes to us all - We mean not however to recapitulate our several Misconducts, but now wish to adopt such Measures for our future welfare as will seem most prudent to us all

Brothers and Nephews

When the English desired us to be Quiet, we had a council at Sandousky at which it was agreed, that in Matters of general concern to the Indians, we were to be of one mind, and One Council, that the different roads of our Messengers, should be kept

Open, so that frequent intercourse might be carried on between us. that whatever place was pitch'd upon for the council fire, the earliest attendance might be given by us all —

You may likewise remember that at that time an invitation was expected from the Americans, in which case it was agreed that our whole Confederacy should attend and that whatever we should agree to with them should be permanent. —

Some time after this, the expected invitation came to our quarter, and we immediately let you know, and only some of your Nations came, this created much confusion amongst the five Nations, some of whom went to the Americans Council — The Americans very readily took the advantage of this and some other small Councils and began to draw lines upon, & set boundaries in the countries belonging to the different Indian Nations.

Some of the young warriors being dissatisfied with this, was the first cause of first Rupture with the Americans —

We now mean to communicate to you our sentiments as we mentioned before, by which we will endeavour to inform you of the only expedient that we could devise for the Wellfare of the Indians in general our grand Confederacy — When you have clearly understood what we intend to propose, we shall then collect our several Opinions, and adopt the easiest and most reasonable mode of settling our present Discontentments with the Americans

War Chief { Here is our belt to confirm our words. A large Belt

Brethren and Nephews

We take this Belt to renew the Confederacy formed at Sandooshy between All the Indian Nations in General; and we hope that every Nation in this particular will follow our example — let us therefore firmly adhere to our former resolutions or his ideas, & let no one thing whatever cause us to deviate from Unanimity in the management of those Affairs in which our general interest and wellfare are concernd — In which firm Unanimity I hope it is obvious to us all, depends our future wellfare and happiness — Brethren & Nephews, Pay particular attention. By this Belt we now reestablish the great Council fire of our Confederacy that was formed at Sandooshy, let us by the virtue of this emblem be of one mind, let this create in us a fresh Idea, that when Any thing of importance requires our exertions that they may be general and united — let all our Actions be attended with that degree of prudence, as to cause no remorse, or penitence, and these will never follow, if we abide by that uniformity of Conduct, which we all agreed to at our first confederate Council fire, and provide no future separate Councils tend to disunite us — A large black Belt, with human figures, representing hand in hand and a heart ——

We the war chiefs of the five Nations are glad [illegible] real Sentiments from the bottoms of our hearts, the Words which we are now going to deliver to you are the words of our Fathers —

[illegible] unity in Confederacy

You have heard the Sentiments of our principal Warchiefs. we have consider'd of them, and mean by this Belt to convince you, that we are of their Opinion and mean to confirm what they have said by this emblem. we hope that you will all assuredly agree with us in those Sentiments which tend so much to the advancement of our general interests, & hope that nothing will lead you astray from that Path of unanimity, which we so strongly recommend.

A large Belt, [illegible] in length. Human Figures hand in hand [illegible] heart — — —

Delawares and Mingoes -

These are the Sentiments of the War Chiefs & Sachems of the five Nations. By this Belt we unite all & bind all, particularly to the Southward, leaving only a small Opening to the westward for those Nations of our Color, who will in time become a further acquisition to our Confederacy, and we earnestly request that no Nation will Attempt to go out of this Circle, as the Opening is only intended to fill up the Vacancy and not to lessen, what is already taken in —

Large white belt a fathom long, at each extremity a man hand in a position for grasping —

Brethren & Nephews

We mean now to inform you of our intentions in case of necessity, we mean to cross at Fort Erie & some of us shall are now in readiness on that side — A Belt —

We mean that all the belts we have now spoke of shall proceed from this Council fire to the different Nations and return to the Shawanese as they live the most centra

Brethren and Nephews

We have now told you every thing, that we think necessary in the present Situation of Affairs, for our interests we are certain that every Nation will be convinced that what we have advanced is true — Take but a cursory view of that large tract of Country between our present habitations & the Salt water, inhabited by the Christians, and consider the reason why it is not still inhabited by our own colour — It is certain that before Christian Nations visited this Continent, we were the sole Lords of the Soil! We were the Lords of the Soil, the great Spirit placed us there! and what is the reason, why we are not still in possession of our forefathers birth Rights? you may safely say because they wanted that unanimity which we now so strongly and earnestly recommend to you —

Our Ancestors cannot however be so much blamed, as their Successors their Days were not so much wronged as our own, they viewed their first Visitors with that degree of awe and veneration which was consequent of the Natives of such free air as they then breathed. You are and we all were convinced that we were treating with beings like our selves and who though the unanimity they were provident enough to preserve, not so much the superiority; - and contented none of the Avoided Effects of our Ancestors to affect them, for any Effect. Therefore let us profit by these things, and be unanimous, let us have a just sense of our own value and if after that the great Spirit, wills, that other Colours should subdue us, let it be so, we then cannot reproach our selves for Misconducts - We hope Brethren & Nephews that you will not misunderstand the meaning of our Speeches. we wish you would understand, unanimity in our Councils on matters that concern us all, if we make a War with any Nation, let it result from the great Council fire, if we make peace, let it also proceed from our unanimous councils but whilst we remain disunited, every inconvenience attends us. The Interests of any One Nation should be the interests of us all the welfare of the One should be the welfare of all the others

A String Black Wampum

Brothers the Wyndotts

You are the eldest brethren we have in this Quarter, but we have never yet been able rightly to distinguis your fire place. when ever we the 5 Nations came to you on private business, you introduced us to the English fire when you should have had one under your own roofs, we therefore now lighten your fire that we may see it at a distance if you look upon yourselves as a free people you should keep up a fire of your own

A Black Belt

Brothers the Wyndotts

Since we have now lighted your Council f we hope you will act accordingly, when business is to be transacted at it, we shall all attend, if a fire is lighted on another place, for that Business, we oug all to attend it also, we once more encourage you to be diligent on this point | Strings

We likewise desired the Wyandotts and Delaway to look out for a place for the Shawanese, more to the westward than where they were formerly where they might settle afresh —

The Hurons Answer.

Brethren the 3 Nations

We have heard you deliver the Sentiments of
your War chiefs and Sachems at this Council
fire Place with the 3 Nations attending, we
understand your meanings very fully and now return
you thanks for your good Speeches, by which you
renew every thing agreed upon at our Council at
Sandooskey, we find all your sentiments very just
and reasonable and that they tend very much
to the interest and wellfare of the Indians in general
for which reason we again thank you — I hope that at
this present time every thing will be accomplished that has
been intended, every thing [illegible] have remained in
perfect Tranquillity long before now, but it was
your faults, because when You took the Hatchet
out of the hands of [illegible] Warriors you did not
bury it, but only set it on one side, we
then covert it but nevertheless the foolish young
Men took it up again, it is owing to [illegible]
neglect that we are [illegible] involved in the
present [illegible] our [illegible] Things

Brothers.

We have according to your desire fix'd both Shawanese and Delawares at the Glaize, so that you se we complied with all your requests —

Bunch Black Strings

Brothers,

We have likewise paid attention to the fire place which you recommended us to keep under our own Roof, we do now fix it at Sindathons village near the mouth of the River [illegible] Black Belt

The Delawares Answer

Uncles the five Nations

We thank you for the Speeches of your War chiefs nd Sachems, we comprehend them clearly and find that they are very much adapted to the interest of the ndians in general and think it very reasonable that every Sentence of them should be adhered , we are exceeding happy that your Ideas are well founded and give you hearty thanks

Strings Wampum

Nephews, the Delawares

We clearly understand your Answers and hank you for your immediate reply which you

- have given to the whole - We are happy that you, our Nephews are so well pleased and that you think what we have advised is for the interest of us all — Brothers the Wyandotts-

Wee are sorry that we are obliged to tell You in this pointed manner, that we are not satisfyed with your Answers, you seem not to make that Apology that you might make for there certainly must be more upon your Minds than what you have let out, we the five Nations are come this great distance to make our proposals and deliver our Sentiments, which we have thought for the best, & we should be sorry that Any of our Brothers here present should want so much generosity as not to explain themselves fully and give their Opinions on what we have said, we must insist upon, that you the Wyandotts will be more candid upon this occasion and let us know your real Sentiments - If you have Any better proposals, or Objections to make we will be glad to hear them - You are the oldest Nation in this Quarter and you must be sensible that the Eyes of all the other

Nations are upon you. It cannot be otherwise that your Minds must be heavy laden with serious thoughts. it is surely expected, and you cannot be excused from Speaking more fully on the present very interesting occasi How is it Possible you can have so little to say on a subject of such great importance to us all.

A black and White belt.--

The Wyandotts Answer

Brothers the five Nations

You were very right when you told us that we had not answered you fully; it is true we did not, & the reason is there were only four Nations here present. I am determined however now to tell You more than I did before. In the first place let us propose an exchange of Prisoners, and let the Shawanese, collect the Whites amongst them in order to exchange for the prisoners which Colonel Logan took from them lately — In the next place we have now three Scouting parties out to watch the motions of the Americans. if I find they Mean to Stop us, we intend to Keep on one side — If they intend to get to Detroit, we do not know what May happen then if they mean to fall upon us, then I do not know how the Warriors will Act —

You have now brighten'd our fire and we shall keep it so, it burns quite fresh, and the Smoak of it reaches the Skies therefore this fall we will collect all the nations round about and determine on Something good or bad, and then we expect you will give your attendance Also —

The first part of this business was the complimentary Ceremony & the Ceremony of condolance by a Cayuga Chief called Tharonghyeageten and the rest by Captain Brant — translated by Mr Foy

Copy of the Transactions
between the five Nations &
the Western Indians, at
their late meeting in the
Indian Country —
in Octobr. 1786 —

Detroit Novr. 12th. 1786 -

Speech of the United Indian Nations, at their confederate Council held near the Mouth of the Detroit River, Between the 28th Novr, and 18th Decr, 1786.

Present

The five Nations, the Hurons, Delawares, Shawanese, Ottawas, Chippewas, Pottawatamies, Twichtwees, Cherokees, and the Wabash Confederates.

To the Congreſs of the United States of America

Bretheren of the Thirteen United States of America,

It is now more than three years, Since Peace was made between the King of Great Britain and You, but we the Indians, were disappointed, finding ourselves not included in that peace according to our Expectations, for we thought that its conclusion would have promoted a friendship between the Unit States and Indians, and that we might enjoy that happineſs that formerly Subsisted between us and our Elder Brethren, — We have received two very agreeable Meſsages from the Thirteen United States, We also received a Meſsage from the King, whose war we were engaged in desiring us to be quiet; which we accordingly complied with — During the time of this tranquility we were deliberating the best method we cou'd to form a lasting reconciliation with the Thirteen United States — Pleased at the Same time we thought that we were entering upon a reconciliation and friendship with a set of people born on the same continent with ourselves, certain that the Quarrel that was between us was not of our own making. In the Course of our Councils we imagined we hit upon an Expedient that would promote a lasting peace Between us. —

Brothers,

We Still are of the Same Opinion as to the means which may tend to reconcile us to each other, and we are sorry to find altho' we had the best thought in our minds, during the beforementioned period mischief has Neverthelеſs happed between you and us — We are Still anxious of putting our plan of accommodation into execution which we shall briefly inform you of the means that Seem most probable to us of affecting a firm and lasting peace and reconciliation, The first Step towards which Should in our opinions be that ll Treaties carried on with the United States on our part Should be with the General Voice of the whole Confederacy, and carried on in the most open manner without any restraint on either Side, – And especially as Landed matters are often the Subject of our Councils with you, a matter of the Greatest importance and of General concern to us, in this case we hold it Indispensibly Necessary that if any Cession of our Lands Should be made it Should be in the most public Manner and by the United Voice of the Confederacy, – holding all partial Treaties as Void and of no effect, –

Brothers

We think its owing to you that the tranquility which Since the peace between us has not lasted, and that, that Essential good, has been followed by Mischief and Confusion, having managed every thing respecting it, your own way you kindled your Councils fires where you thought proper without consulting us, at which you held Seperate Treaties and have entirely Neglected our plan of having a General Conference with the Different Nations of the Confederacy, had this happened we have reason to believe every thing would now have been Settle'd Between us in a Most friendly Manner. We did every thing in our power at the Treaty at Fort Stanwix to induce you to follow this plan, as our real intentions were at that very time to promote peace and Concord between us, and that we might look upon each other as friends, having given you no cause or provocation to be otherwise, Notwithstanding the Mischief that has happened we are Still Sincere in our wishes to have peace and tranquility Established between us, earnestly hoping to find the Same inclinations in you. —

Brothers,

We therefore wish you wou'd take it into Consideration and let us Speak to you in the Manner we proposed, let us have a treaty with you early in the Spring let us pursue reasonable Steps, let us meet half ways for our Mutual Convenience we Shall then bury in oblivion the Misfortunes that has happened and meet each other on a footing of Friendship. —

Brothers,

We say let us meet half ways & let us pursue Such Steps as become upright and honest men, untill Such time we beg that you will prevent your Surveyors and other people from coming upon our Side of the Ohio River. We have told you before we wished to pursue just Steps, and we are Determined they Shall appear just and reasonable in the Eyes of the World, This is the Determination of all the Chiefs of our Confederacy now Assembled here, Notwithstanding, the Accidents that have happened in our Villages even when in Council where Several innocent Chiefs were killed when absolutely engaged in promoting a peace with you the thirteen United States, — Altho' then interrupted the Chiefs here present Still wish to meet you in the Spring for the beforementioned good purpose, when we hope to Speak to each other without either haughtiness or Menaces, —

Brothers

We again request of you in the most earnest manner, to order your Surveyors and others that mark out Lands, to cease from crossing the Ohio untill we Shall have Spoke to you, because the mischiefs that has recently happened has originated in that Quarter we Shall likewise prevent our people from going over Untill that time, — It Shall not be our faults if the plan we have Suggested to you — Should not be Carried into Execution, —

Brothers,

In that case the event will be very precarious, and if fresh ruptures ensue, we hope to be able to exculpate ourselves, and Shall most Assuredly with our United force, Shou'd we unfortunately be obliged to defend those rights and privalages which have been transmitted to us by our Anceſtors, — And if we Should thereby be reduced to Miſfortunes, the world will pity us, when they think of the Amicable proposals we now make to prevent the unneceſsary effusion of Blood, These are our thoughts and firm resolves, and we earnestly desire that you will transmit to us as Soon as poſsible your Answer, be it what it may. —

Done at our Confederate Council fire at the Huron Village near the Mouth of the Detroit River, Decr. 18th 1786 —

Present

The five Nations	Chippawas
Hurons	Pottawatamies
Shawanese	Twichtwees
Delawares	Cherokees
Ottawas	The Wabash Confederates

The answer of the Wyandotts and Delawares to the Speech sent to them by General Richard Butler Esquire Superintendant of Indian affairs &c delivered to them by James Rankin 23d September 1786

Brothers of the Thirteen fires, we have heard what you said to us the other day. The peace we made at Beaver Creek we will always hold that Belt of Friendship fast and wish you to do the same, and what you said about dividing the Land we likewise stand to it, but its best to let it not be divided yet. — There is something behind we I don't like, and something from your side does not look good, if we force this work of the Land now it may do mischief, its best let the Land alone till every thing is right.

Brothers were we Wyandotts and Delawares, to shew ourselves at the surveying of the Land we are very sure the other Nations of Indians towards the Sun Setting would whip us very sorely, for they are very angry and says we are just like the Americans.

Brothers when we were at home here we seen a black Cloud come from the Sun setting. We Wyandotts and Delawares pushed it back and it is still there. But now we see one rising behind you; you must look to it and push it away and make things clear. — Brothers, what We Wyandotts and Delaware say to you, you may be sure is right, and what News we hear we will always let you know; and we thank you for appointing General Butler to take care of us; and that he will let us know what News you have. — Brothers, We hear that Capt. Brant and some of the Six Nations are gone by to the Shawanoes, and to the other Nations, and we are sent for; and we believe you will be sent for that.

We may all hear what they have to say. Brothers
the Delaware Captain Buckingechilas is come
home from the Chickasaws Country and we are
called on to go to his Town, to hear the News
he has brought with him.

Copy
Half King of the
Wyandotts & Capt.
Pipes anſwer.

N° 15

Extract of a letter from Genl. Butler, to the Secretary at war, dated "Fort Pitt, 13th. Decr. 1786—

Since my arrival at this place I have had several of the *petit* chiefs of the Senneca tribe of the Six nations to visit, as is their custom— They all expreſs great satisfaction that Congreſs have been pleased to appoint a person to whom they can speak, *as they term it*; they seem to be very well disposed— pay great attention to hunting—come in frequently to trade, and are very civilly treated by the inhabitants, but as is usual with indians frequently apply to me for small quantities of ammunition and provisions, generally flour, a little salt and spirits— these things I deal out with as sparing a hand as poſsible; but the snow being deeper than common at this season their applications are more frequent than in milder seasons— This severity of weather which has froze the Allegany river, and the depth of the snow has prevented the Cornplanter (who I find is a steady friend) from comming in but expect him as soon as it moderates which we have now the appearance of—

I have some accounts from the council of the western nations convened at Sandusky which say that the Delawares and Wyandots have declared themselves averse to war, and that the Chippawas, Ottawas, and Putowatamies, have determined to regulate their conduct by these two nations, but that the indians on the upper parts of the Miami and Wabash rivers - the Shawnese inclusive, are still hostilly disposed but undeterminate, and that their conventions have never been so numerous or particularly destined as has been reported. Another account says that the Delawares and Wyandots have been advised to move to a greater distance from us and to join their towns with the Shawnese and Miamies - Of this I am not yet certain but should it be true the Omen is not favourable as this frequently happens before a rupture -

- I am also informed from two quarters that the British Agent Mr. McKee has been at Sandusky, as well as Brant, and that they have not been idle in their hostile advice, of this in about three weeks, I shall have certain intelligence, as I have sent out some very trusty persons who are to return in that time - I shall send out others as soon as the weather moderates in order to obtain accounts from every source - the expence will be something considerable, but I hope it will meet the approbation of Congreſs as the safety of an extensive frontier so much depends on it, and Congreſs may rest aſsured that care, attention and economy shall mark the progreſs of my transactions in every respect — I am certainly informed that about September last a british officer with a party of men in company with one Simon Girth came to Cayahoga in order to prevent the paſsage of peltry to this quarter from that country — It iſ a certain fact that the british do controul our trade, and stimulate the Indians to mischief, and I am fully convinced that until the United States have a respectable force on the frontiers, neither trade, surveying, or the settlement of lands can be carried on to advantage — The places or posts most proper to secure and promote these objects are in my opinion as follows — At Cayahoga a small post and stores — At Sandusky Lake d° at the head of the Stillwater of the great Miami river which empties into Lake Erie a respectable force — at the Miami town on same river — d° at St Josephs which empties into Lake Michigan a respectable force — There are other places where posts may be useful, until proper establishments are made and regulations in operation — This will convince the Indian tribes of their dependance on the United States, and preclude all other than the citizens from any connections with the Indians, or interference

with the valuable trade of that great and extensive coun
The force of the United States can also prevent illegal or improper intrusions on any other lands than those which Congreſs may think proper to dispose of and allow to be settled.

I have this evening rec.d an account by one Mr Wiat from the Wabash and last from the falls of Ohio. that the affair of Colonel Logan against the Sha-anese is true – that they brought about thirty prisone and eleven Scalps – some of the chiefs fell, and that the expedition of General Clark has certainly miscarried ou-ing, this man says, to a mutiny among the troops w refused to go on – We have no open intercourse w the indian towns as yet therefore no application for licence to trade.

Having gone through as general a detai of present occurrences, and stated matters as fully as i my power for the information of Congreſs and you-self, I have the honor to be &c &c

No. 4 —

deep, & the Ohio River full & driving with Ice, so that it is impoſsible for boats to go up and down it, and our winter ſupplies are not yet laid in —

I have put the troops on half allowance of flour for this month paſt, and have not at preſent two days flour in the garriſon. The Hunters leave me about Christmas, so that I have a very disagreeable prospect before me. I am informed that Mr. Marmie has at length arrived at Fort Pitt with a ſupply of Cash, but Mr. Britt has been frequently & timely apprized of the neceſsity of forwarding on the proviſions and guarding against the severity of the Season —

It will in my opinion be neceſsary to continue an Officer and party at Fort Pitt to guard the public Stores there, and to forward any more which may arrive, as I would not depend upon the management of the Contractors in this affair.

The old Companies are in a most wretched ſituation with reſpect to clothing particularly those who have been upon duty for the protection of the surveyors; indeed they are almoſt naked. There is an absolute neceſsity that the annual allowance should be now here — If Meſsrs. Turnbull Marmie & Co.

serve us no better in their contract for the clothing than they have done in their Contract for Provisions I ſincerely wish they had never undertaken it.

I am happy to observe the Ordinance of Congreſs respecting the Indian department - that it is placed under the direction of a ſuperintendants, ſubject to your orders; as it will rid me of a vast deal of trouble.

In consequence of the Resolution of Congreſs of the 24th August, which you have been pleased to enclose to me, and in obedience thereto, I have written to the Moravian Indians, enclosing them a copy thereof, and have directed that the corn & other articles will be delivered to them at this post, as I judge it more convenient for them than McIntosh - I hope this will be a ſufficient apology for my deviating from the Resolve of Congreſs, which is my wish always most ſacredly to adhere to - A Copy of my letter to them upon this ſubject I have the honor to enclose to you.

Agreeably to the Resolve of Congreſs and your orders I have directed that Major

Wyllys be released from arreſt - I propose to detach him down the river to take command of the two Companies at the rapids of the Ohio -

You may reſt aſsured that I ſhall have the interest of the public constantly in view and act upon the moſt rigid scale of Oeconomy.

I have the honor to be &c

(Signed) Jos. Harmar

Lt Col: Comt 1st U: S: Regt

Copy -
Letter Decr 7th 1786 -
Col Harmar to the Secy at War -

No. 2.

Tyatatekin

Aghsea yaweare, Niswagoraghseragegh, Kaghweghnageghronon, Jathontagh, Waagwaweanaräne Nagwatatekinshon, Ongweghhonwegh Naagwayatoten Geatho, Yongwatsinghayen, tsigentsistayia, Shaghstaghrontsi

Raotsista — Tyatatekin

Onengh, Yadongoghtongh ne aighsea, niyoghseragegh, tsinaghke Skennen, Tedisewadonongh Goraghgowa Jewateriyoghne. Nigadi, Neiigh, tsinaoingwayatawea, Ne agwatatekinshon Oingweghhonwegh, naagwayatoten

Ne ne yaghten, Etho teyawea'ongh tsiniyaght Yagwennonghtonsuonghaghkwe Ne ne Skennen, Oni'igh, thondeganonkweserigoghage, Ne isa, ne aghsea yaweare Nisewagoraghtsheragegh Kaghweghnageghronon, Yakwerighaghkwe Onghwatsiok ok oni'igh Skennen thenyongwataghskatstonhage, Skennen thateajakwateranegeaghage, Otatekenseragayongh, Shiyagwatatekenagh, Kaghweghwenageghronon, Ikon agwagh, karighwiyo tsinigaweanagegh. Ne onen, Shonsagwaweanaronge, Teyohetkenonne, ne ongwanigonra; Ethoghgeghnonwe ne onenghSkennen, Shonsaghshonkwanigonrayea Raoriwa, Yongwateriyogh, Goraghgoiwagh—

Teggenigh, teyoghnaret, Gwawea naghrongeagh, ne agwaghsie, ne aghsea, Gawenea Ne tewagoraghseragegh; Etthoghyeghoni Jogontatye, Yongwattoghraragongh, agwatatikenshon, ne eok waagwennonghdonnion, ne tsinayawea netogeaghsge, ayorighwaghniron, Skennen kayanereaghsera Onsayongwaterighwaghteatyen, Tewatatikenagh Enskat tsinonwe Ongwe, yongwadonongh Jaghten ighteyongwariwa, Teyohetkenonne onigwenmigonra. Etthoghyegh, Enskat yongwarighwatsheariongh, tsinayawea, nene Niyeaheawe, Gayorighwatatye, Kayanereaghsera onwe, Ayongwatonse, tetewajaron Tyatatiken — Shegongh, okhonengh, tsiniyongwanijonghroteagh, agwatatikenshon —

Ongweghkonwegh Naagwayatoten, Geat-
nonwagongwatsenghayen, Ne tsinityagwen-
tsonghtonnionghoghkwe ne Ethoghgegh
Onen, Sane yoneghragwaghtgowagh ne tsi
natijongwayatawenaongh, Ceghseayawi
Nisewagoraghseragegh, Ne tkeniinighsi
ne onengodongontongh ne Aghsea niyo-
seragegh kinyagwaton. Kenageyen ne
ne yagwaton Enskatokyongwarighwat-
hearionghk ne onen Shiyagwatteriendar-
ton ne kayanereaghsera onwe ayon-
gwatonse Tetewajarongh Yagwerrha-
kwe Nagwatatekenshon Enskatgeagh
Yatenyagwaghtharen Engyagwawenana-
quekon Ne ne tsi natewa Nagwatatek-
shon, tsi niyagwanigonra, Nyatiyagwawea
nag.

Rawenniyoh Geattho Shonkwennagerattston Jagwerrhaghkwe Okyeagarighweatyghte ne enin teagongwaterighoghserase Karighwiyoghtkaghoten Ikin oksaok yongwanigonghrayendaongh Agwegongh tsiniyeyaghiagh Sewanigonra, Raghwighnageghronon Ne ne Onghwenja gorighwanentagongh Ne tsiengongwaterighwaghtentyen, Kayanereaghsera Jitewayatogeagh, Ikin neagh Ahonkaagh, Karighwanoron, Ne Agyongwehoniwagh ne onghwenja Ayonteweatyghte Ne Kadi waghonni, Jaghten nonweatongh thaontgwe ni Ne Toghgara niyongwetage Ongweghonwagh Toghgarateres, Niyagwenwenjageagh Ayerighwissa Kayanereaghsera tonsayerighontea, teyohetkenonne

Agonigonra Onghwenja Ayorighwanentakon

Tyatatiken

Yagweghre isegeghtagayeaghtaghkwe ne tsiyaghaniogh, teyongwaterighwaghtentyasegh Ongwayanereaghsera, Onen ok nonwa, Yaghthiyojoyeateraght, tsinatonsayongwayathawea ne niyaweght, Songhwagh Sanigonra, tsinaaweane netsinigeatsistoteaose seatsistonniamiongkwe Yaghten Etho teyaweaongh. Netsini nityongwatoronni ne ne thentsistagh Yagotonon, Niyateyongyonghwenjagegh tiskat ontayongwaiweaninegeaon, Yagweghre thagonte nonwa, thennen thagongwatonharage Tetiwajarongh ne ne Ethonayaweaon — Agwaghstane Tyongwarighwagontaghkwe, neyagwatongha

gwe

watewegiänonnigh Yagwagwegongh, nagwatatekenshon, Teyehonwagh tha nonwegh, Shieweatsis tonnigh, Iken agwaghetho ne tyonkwanigonghroteaghne ne Ethoghgegh Naigwagh ne yagwennonghtonaion, ne yagwanonwese ne Skennen, thontontearoseriyohage Kayanereaghsera ok onsonteriighwaghteadi Tjaghkanaka ne Ayagwarighwanonwakshege ne ethoghgeghnonwe.

Tyatateken

Aghsie ayaweare Nigagoraghseragegh Ni ne yagwaton Shegongh okonengh tsiniyongwanigonghrosteagh ne ne tsiniyoterighwagwarighſyongh, Skennen nagarighotea aonterighwaghteadi, Titewanighogeagh onen Sane tsiniyongwatawea ongh

yongh

yoneghragwaght yagweghre agwaghtonse=
wayatoreghte ne ne Ethodnen, siare naya
yawea, ne nigh, nityagwen nongh Ronnion
ne agwegongh ontyagwawea ni ne geane
agwatatekenshon, Tonsetewaghtharen
aghseayaweare, ni tewagoraghteragegi
agwaghyeagwiteghtsi, tejarongh tsi ni=
tyoweyeaston nayawea ne ne kaok ne
Shatewaghtsianen, tyonghwiajogeaghyegi
nonwe natastewaterane, Ethononwe ae=
tyonghwiajongaghte, ne waghhetken, ne
egh aonterighwaghtsiadi ne tejaron ayo
kwanigonghriyone ne tsi nayawea ne
agarighwagatstiane iken Shatayawen.
ne onkwanigonra — Yaguenwon, kaadi
Tyatatiken, Thagonte waaditewayatorey.
Ne ne Etho nayawea, Shatewaghtsianen,

seata tewaterane, Taetewaghtharen aganiorighkwe seryaghage, tsinayaweane, nene tsinenyagorighoteagh, ne Etsingonwayats ne Radi, waghonni, Yaguenrongh, thagondaah; Etho niare, nategarighwaktane, ne tetsewatawearie sewarisdiberenon tyese ne ne ayighnegh, nagaghonhadigh ne Ohio Etho niare nategatani ne tewatyeronght ne tetsitewaghthaongh Otogeaongh ne tsinenyagaweane, Yorighwaghnirongh tsiniyonguanigonghroteagh neyaguanonwaseis ne aquaghakatokenne, ne tsinethaorighwayeri nayawea tsitekakanire ne Kenyonghwanjate; Etho nighadinijonghroteagh, Radigowanenghse gea tho nonwa ronatyeanisson, nigatehononghwenjage

224

Ne ne Radinonwese nekaghaok ne ne
kayanereaghsera, Contirighwaghtiadi;
onenkane yonaghragwaght, ne tsinaonkhi
yere, Nejonkweta, Aghsea yaweane, ne
wagoraghseragegh, waonkhinatakari, ska-
nen, Thiyongwatsinghayea ne Yongwatsin
hayeatayhgongh ne ne Ethe niare ñatagari
waktane nekarighwakshengh, naghotea
niareghkwe ne tonsetewaghtharen ne
isa, Kaghwaghñageghronon Aghsongh
Ikennen Yongwatsinghayea Ethowa=
onkhirio, toghka naghonwadirio; Radijo
wanenskwe ne Rodetsistaraonne, nea
yoghten thshagh, tayeyatate ne waghkes
ken, naghaten, ok Shegongh, dontoghor
tewegeaton, Rontatekenshon, Geathore
&c.

Ronatquanisson ne okwaghonnonghonquon, ne nitsinonwa nihodinigonghroteagh, ne Ronneghre tayagwaghtharen Orighwatogea ongh Geagwilightse, Jaghtekayaghraodinigonra Rontatehinshon – Tewayageagh hadi, aghteayawea ne Nitewagoraghtsiragegh Tetsinigatsoaght, Ethonigawen netsineyagewayerha ne onwa, thagondaak Ethoniawe natigarighwaktane ne desewayagwaks, dighadiyagaakojonguieda ohiotsiyoghonhe tatye Ethowaghki, watirikonneghs ne waghhetthen tsinigongwagadaweaghse, etho niigh ninyawenne yaghthatayeyagaake nongyonguieda –

Tyatateken .

I. Ne enganayere ne Sewanigonra neyaghten Ethotheayaweaghsere, Netsimonwa niyagwayersha ne Karighwiyo, Ethoghgegh kadi Onen yaghoghthiyonsayagwayera ne onen enyongwasheani ne waghhetken Onen theaweanonghton tsioenyongwayatawea, Tsinenyagwagweani ne Enyagwatatyatagenha, Enyagwaghsgenha netinaghhoten Shongwawigh Raweaniyoh Ongweghonwegh, naagwayattea. Tyongwennigonragonte yaghten ighongwariwa, thaonton, ne waghhetken – oghkadi ninyameane, Skennen, thiegonkhiteare ne ongweghhokon, ne oghgloh niyongwarighwayeraas Kanoron gishiagh – Tsyatatiken. Ethon nondayagwewenniniikenne yoghsnorengh, kadi jagwaronk, ne teronigeagaghaw, Sewanigonra Geaths, waagwarighwiske Agwatatekenshon Kanatagongh.

Raghreyaghtoot Decem.br 18th 1786

Etho waagwatatsheanaronnion, tainatiyaqyengh
ne ongwagwea na, Kegeathogh kaghyaton, Rodi 22)
nonghsionni Teghadighstaghretsi, Sawanenronon,
Ronatshaganea, Towightowighronon Oyatagongh-
ronon, Oyaghtaninghronon, Chippewas Otawawagh.
Otonwadeni

David Hill Karonghyontye
Jos. Brant Thayendanegea

x Sharonghyowanen
x Kaghnisgwalenion — Rodinonghkonni
x Shagoyeghwatha
x Skoyghkeresa
— aronghyagetea
x Kanawayeaton — Tehadighstaghretsi
+ Odoyentight
+ Ocaronghkwaet
+ Shekyepelighter — Sawanenronon
+ Snake Tehonajatthkenje

+ Pipe Athoqwagita

ka
Ronatihanen

+ Poghgantighkeles

+ Megealigh Twightoweghronon

+ Agosyowegh — Otawa

Oetighzeit Chippewa

towatemis

Windego

⊕ Skwaghgonak

se
⊕ Neyamneighkagh